

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTIETH
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

2015



Published by

THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020, INDIA

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Presidential Address

To the 140th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society
Adyar, 31 December 2015

Dear Brethren, welcome all to the 140th Convention of the Theosophical Society, after a trying period of climate-related emergencies experienced in one way or another by almost all of us in the recent past. Let us offer together a moment of silence in memory of those who have lost their lives in these tragedies, wishing them a peaceful transition, also in giving thanks that the damages suffered by others were not worse than what they were, and in hoping for a return to normalcy in general as soon as possible, for all those who have been seriously affected. Please rise for the invocation to the Great Ones who protect the Society with their energy and strength:

**May those who are the embodiment of Love Immortal
bless with their help and guidance this Society, founded
to be a channel for their work. May They inspire it with
their Wisdom, strengthen it with their Power, and energize
it with their Activity.**

I am very glad to open this 140th Annual Convention of the TS.

Little needs to be said about the appropriateness of the theme for this year's convention: 'Compassion and Universal Responsibility'. There seems to be a growing perception that our world, the network of relationships we have created, is becoming less caring, more brutal, and insensitive. Certainly this is the feedback received from popular media sources. Whether or not this perception is accurate, it is affecting the outlook and responsiveness of people around the world and within our Theosophical Society.

During the TS's history great shifts have been witnessed in the structures of society and the knowledge that supports those structures. The world has changed

profoundly since the founding days of the TS. The long list of global changes during the past 140 years includes colonialism, human and civil rights, national independence, world wars, massive technological advances, nuclear threat, economic depressions, large scale human migrations, and ecological challenges. In the face of such challenges many people feel paralysed by a sense of powerlessness and insignificance. Others feel energized and seek out ways to make their presence felt. Still others find themselves searching for some serene haven, safe from the onslaught of the world around. For many the life of the spiritual seeker seems to provide such a hiding

place from the troubles of the world. This is not, cannot be, and never has been the choice for members of the TS.

Although so much of the change in the world is revealing itself in visible and tangible ways, always the root is hidden — out of sight and beyond the reach of surface attempts at 'fixing' the problems. The level of causes is necessarily unseen. It is on that level where we find our work.

One of the prevailing truths that has become clear across disciplines is the fact of the radical interdependence, not only of the people of the world, but of all life. Social science, psychology, economics, quantum physics, biology, ecology, and normal common sense are now magnifying this awareness that all things are inextricably interrelated and are continually affecting each other. From the human perspective, our most potent tool in this world of effects is thought. A mind that can link itself to its higher, hidden potentials, powerfully affects its environment. Examples are familiar to us in people like Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Mother Theresa, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and many other high-minded, loving people of less renown.

So much of the condition of the world today derives from what H. P. Blavatsky described as 'the heresy of separateness'

— the conviction that reality is composed of countless separate, isolated atoms, or beings, or worlds. There is an expression that, 'You must not only learn the truth; you must suffer it.' If our experience of the Ageless Wisdom reveals anything to us, it is that consciousness is the ground of reality. Whether it is the limitations of the strict material world view, or the expansiveness of some higher perception, essentially it all arises from consciousness.

This realization is liberating and provides a direction for our work in the world. The theme for this year's Convention seems to focus on two things, compassion and responsibility, but the distinction is only apparent. The two are inseparable. Compassion necessitates responsibility. Responsibility assumes compassion. Both are the natural expression of a mind that has some depth of experience of a non-separate reality. It is not our work to *become* compassionate, but to remove those barriers to the ever-present, and completely unforced expression of our nature, which is compassionate.

Before we turn to the individual activity reports, the overall membership for the Theosophical Society based on the information received so far stands at 25,933, a two percent drop from the 26,497 reported last year.

* * *

Beginning this year with the Indo-Pacific region, the Indian Section reports no change in their membership, still at 11,327. The North India Study Camp was held at their Varanasi headquarters in October 2014. The study was on the

late international President Mrs Radha Burnier's contributions and approach to Theosophy, directed by Mr P. K. Jayaswal, National Lecturer. My first visit to the Indian Section headquarters coincided with this event, and I gave a public lecture

on 'The Ever-Present Future' on 29 October. A two-day seminar on 'Education in the Light of Theosophy and Present Day Challenges' was organized by the Section in March 2015. It was structured on Dr Besant's Adyar Pamphlet no. 16, *Education in the Light of Theosophy*. The International Vice-President, Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, spoke at this seminar on 'Educating the Poor and the Contribution of the Olcott Education Society'. A three-day study camp was also held in March by Prof. R. C. Tampi, based on Ms Joy Mills' *The Human Journey—Quest for Self-Transformation*.

The 92nd South India Theosophical Conference was inaugurated by me in Adyar in April on HPB's *The Voice of the Silence*. Mr S. Sundaram, General Secretary of the Section, welcomed the gathering and Dr Satapathy gave the concluding address. Several distinguished members also spoke on various topics related to HPB's book. In May the Section organized four events at the Himalayan Study Centre in Bhowali: a study camp on Clara Codd's *The Way of the Disciple*, directed by Mr Jayaswal; a Workers' Training Camp; a camp for the Uttarakhand Region; and a study camp on *At the Feet of the Master*, organized by the Marathi Theosophical Federation and conducted by Prof. C. A. Shinde, National Lecturer. A study camp on 'Virtues' was organized in Bhowali in October 2014 by the Karnataka Federation and study of *The Secret Doctrine* was directed by its President, Mr B. V. Thippeswamy in April. A special session of the School

of the Wisdom was organized by the International headquarters this year for the first time in Bhowali, attended by participants from the USA, Brazil, Spain, Australia, and India in September, and was based on Shirley Nicholson's *Ancient Wisdom—Modern Insight*. Dr Satapathy inaugurated the course and Prof. Tampi directed it.

Apart from visiting the Section headquarters in Varanasi, I also visited the Utkal Theosophical Federation in Bhubaneswar, the Bengal Theosophical Federation in Kolkata, and the Karnataka Theosophical Federation in Bangalore, where I delivered public talks. Dr Satapathy visited Bhubaneswar during the East Zone Theosophical Conference and delivered a talk on *Theosophy and Altruism*. He also addressed various theosophical gatherings during his visits to the Tamil, Assam, and Delhi Theosophical Federations, and conducted study camps in Guwahati and Delhi. The Section's journal, *The Indian Theosophist*, was published every month with an average monthly circulation of 3,200. A special number of the journal on Dr Radha Burnier was brought out in November.

Mrs Linda Oliveira, National President of the TS in Australia, reports that they had a successful annual Convention with keynote speakers and long-time TS members Drs Victor and Olga Gostin. Their Section's annual School of Theosophy was held at the Springbrook Centre in Queensland on 'Discovering Buddhist Wisdom: Philosophy and Practice'. They also received the award of the first annual prize to Studies in Religion at the Uni-

versity of Queensland, for research into the Perennial Philosophy in its Eastern and Western Traditions; commenced publication of their redesigned national magazine; had an active schedule of National Speakers around the Section, and also a successful tour of the Section by International Lecturer Mr Vic Hao Chin, Jr., who conducted a Self-Transformation seminar at the Canyonleigh Centre in New South Wales. The placement of the new national website online earlier this year, and an active programme of activities in Lodges, Branches, and Study Centres were other accomplishments. The **New Zealand** Section held its national Convention in Napier last January with guest speakers Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., from the Philippines, and Mr Barry Bowden from Australia on 'The Way Forward for Humanity: Achieving Universal Brotherhood'. A 'Process of Self-Transformation' seminar was also held in Napier, facilitated by Mr Hao Chin and others. Around 30 people attended this 3-day event. The School of Theosophy was held for four days at the HPB Lodge in Auckland with guest Mrs Dorothy Bell from Australia, on 'Theosophical World View — Window of a New Mind'. The Central Region held two events: a weekend seminar held at Palmerston North on 'Theosophy Foundations' facilitated by the National President, Mr John Vorstermans, and an event held at Wellington entitled 'The Wisdom of Patanjali's Yoga Sutras', a study and meditation retreat. The Section membership went down by 28, from 704 to 676.

The TS is present in four countries in **East and South East Asia**. The Singapore Lodge is the largest in the region, with around 400 members. It had a visit by international President Mr Tim Boyd and his wife Lily, and is the base for the Chinese Project Team, which develops the Chinese website and translates theosophical literature into Chinese. The Selangor Lodge, in Malaysia, has 83 members. Japan has the Nippon Lodge in Tokyo with 37 members, and Myanmar (formerly Burma) has the Olcott Lodge with 45 members. Each Lodge has its own website. Their total membership is 555, an increase of 8.

There are 5 Lodges and 239 members in **Bangladesh**. Kusum Lodge continued its monthly study of *At the Feet of the Master*, and Chittagong Lodge organized biweekly meetings and meditation programmes. Olcott Lodge in Dhaka organized four meetings during the year and 6 members of this Lodge attended the international Convention at Adyar last year. Comilla Lodge continued periodical meetings. Mr B. L. Bhattacharyya, the Presidential Representative, visited Dhaka and Comilla in December, speaking at the various Lodges. On the 5th he attended the meeting as Chief Guest organized by Comilla Lodge. On the same day a new Lodge, 'Maynamati' was formed at Comilla, with 19 members composed of young advocates, professors, and teachers. On 7 December another new Lodge, named 'Proactive TS Lodge', was formed at Dhaka.

The **Philippine** Section participated in the international Convention at Adyar

through its delegate, former General Secretary, Mr Vic Hao Chin, Jr., who gave a Convention talk and facilitated the strategic planning activities which took place at Adyar in a two-day meeting held right after the Convention. At the national front, Self-Transformation Seminars (STS) and workshops were held and well received during the year in the Mindanao State University, at the Section headquarters in Quezon City, and at various private companies. Many other lectures and study programmes were held throughout the country during the year, mostly by Mr Hao Chin. Two new Lodges were formed during the year, the Golden Link Lodge and Logos Lodge. Enrolment in TS schools during the school year reached landmark gains, with a total of 895 students enrolled in 4 schools and one college.

The TS in America (TSA) reports that under their Library Director, Marina Maestas, the Henry S. Olcott Memorial Library collection can now be accessed nationally through a cooperative inter-library loan arrangement, and often internationally. The TSA public programming operates seven days a week on a range of theosophical subjects with growing attendance. During the year, their IT/AV department increased the number of live webcasts of their Thursday night lecture series. They are realizing the goal of their IT department head, Mr Chris Bolger: almost every talk is streamed live on the Internet. Now their online attendance is equal to or greater than the number of people physically attending the talk, and some are tuning in from other countries.

Their TS Wiki — a Wikipedia-style reference on Theosophy and the TS, is approaching 4 million visitors to the site, which has now migrated to a new domain: <www.theosophy.wiki>. A growing body of Internet resources are being made available to the theosophical world through the TSA website, <www.theosophical.org>.

After almost 50 years in operation, publication of Quest Books will be ending at the close of the year. The TSA Board of Directors decided that substantial further investment of TSA resources in Quest Books would not be financially responsible. However, this creates new possibilities in the area of online activities. The TSA will continue to publish Theosophical books through their Theosophical Publishing House. The Audio-Video (AV) Department recorded 74 new titles comprising 89 audio CDs, and 70 new titles comprising 79 DVDs. Most of the titles may be purchased at <www.questbooks.com>. The TSA National Secretary, Mr David Bruce, reports that during the year 20 speakers gave over 60 presentations, most of which were well attended and enthusiastically received. Courses for the National Lodge, now in its 18th year of existence, are also selected and edited by Mr Bruce. The membership of the National Lodge remains steady at 370 and total membership for the Section is 3,357, a slight increase over the previous year.

The National President of the TS in Brazil, Mr Marcos de Resende, writes that they have 757 members, a decrease of 11, with 32 Lodges, making it the largest Section in Latin America. Their 34th Summer School was held over 6

days in January-February, with about 150 in attendance from 16 states. There were lectures, panels, and study groups about themes from Annie Besant's *A Study in Consciousness*. The Section has three active Theosophical Institutes and a Centre. The Brasilia Institute, directed by Mr Resende, held various lectures, seminars, and workshops. Its main event was the 19th International Theosophical School in July on 'The Transforming Path: In Search of the Diamond'. The visiting lecturers were Mrs Linda Oliveira, President of the TS in Australia, and Mr Pedro Oliveira, former International Secretary of the TS. The event was a success, with about 170 participants. The Raja Foundation Centre (Sao Paulo), held various activities, including a 4-day retreat with various lectures on 'Universal Compassion — the Practice of Brotherhood'. The Pitagoras Institute (SP) conducted 'An Introductory Course on Theosophical Thought'. Their bi-monthly magazine *Sophia* has reached its 13th anniversary this year, publishing its 57th issue of 5,500 copies per edition.

The **Cuban Section** is the second largest in Latin America. It has 558 members, a slight decrease, in 12 Lodges. Their National President, Mrs Barbara Fariñas Piña, states that their two-day Annual Convention was celebrated in January with the theme 'Devotion'. The Lodges in Havana organized a two-day Summer School on the 'Gayatri Mantra' for more than 30 members. Some of the books studied by the Lodges were Annie Besant's *Thought Power, its Control and Culture* and *A Study in Consciousness*;

Besant and Leadbeater's *Talks on the Path of Occultism*; and others. Their quarterly e-magazine, *Revista Teosófica Cubana*, continues to be published.

The General Secretary of the TS in **Argentina and Paraguay**, Mr Jorge García, tells us that in January they held a public conference given by visiting speaker from Canada, Dr Ravi Ravindra, on 'The Scientific Mind and the Religious Mind'. It was held in San Rafael, with about 300 persons attending. This was followed by their five-day 51st Summer School, with Dr Ravindra giving two seminars: 'The Yoga of Christ' and 'The Yoga of Krishna'. Their National Congress, held in January on 'The Golden Stairs and Our Task' was enriching. Their six-day Winter School was on 'The Value of Silence', consisting of introspection and reflection by 29 participants who were asked to remain silent from the end of dinner until after lunch the next day. The TS in **Bolivia** achieved Section status. Their General Secretary, Mrs Guillermina Rios de Sandoval, says that they also opened three new study centres with many young members in Sucre, Santa Cruz, and La Paz, representing the future of the TS in the Section and the growth they are experiencing. The TS in **Chile** had their Convention on 3 October with the theme 'The Truth: Essence of our Being', during which Mr César Ortega was elected Presidential Representative. Their Theosophical Electronic Brochure and the Chilean Theosophical magazine are sent monthly to different Spanish-speaking countries. The Presidential Representative of the TS in **Peru**,

Mr Julio Pomar, reports that their two Lodges, 'HPB' and 'Verdad', gave a total of 17 public talks during the year. The Agency offered a free internet course on Theosophy to the public. Also, Lodge 'Verdad' offered a 'Basic Course of Theosophy', with 12 attending. Lodge 'HPB' also offered the course 'The Basis of Esoteric Philosophy' with 18 in attendance. They lost two members, but gained 10 new ones, for a total of 37. The Organizing Secretary of the TS in **Uruguay**, Mr Ramón García reports that all five Lodges met weekly. Books studied included HPB's *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Voice of the Silence*, and Eckhart Tolle's *The Power of Now*.

The TS in **Mexico**'s new National President, Mr Enrique Sánchez, writes that their 155 members worked in 12 lodges and 5 study centres across the country, all of which he visited, giving a conference about the first Object of the TS. At their national headquarters, Mrs Lissette Arroyo gave nine courses on Theosophy during the year. They have been updating their webpage, <www.sociedadteosofica.mx>, every month and next year they are planning to have a new link with a bookstore online where enquirers can buy some books and receive other books free of charge. Mrs Magaly Polanco, the Presidential Agent for **Puerto Rico**, writes that every Sunday morning they offered talks on theosophical subjects given by different members in Spanish, the language mostly spoken in Puerto Rico. In May they welcomed Mr Gaspar Torres, former National President of the Cuban Section.

His talks generated interest and enthusiasm among the many who attended. The workshop he conducted on 'The Management of Emotions in Inner Development' was very fruitful. Their Agency building was thoroughly renovated. Mrs Polanco is also the Presidential Agent for the **Dominican Republic**. She reports that Atma Lodge, in Santo Domingo, received Mr Terry Hunt as guest speaker, who gave a successful public lecture with about 60 active participants. Mr Hunt also offered a retreat-workshop in Jarabacoa on 'The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett', with around 40 in attendance. The Lodge studied HPB's *The Key to Theosophy*, the *Dhammapada*, and began to study W. Q. Judge's *The Ocean of Theosophy*. Nueva Aurora Lodge in Puerto Plata focused on the study of the Mahatma Letters. The approximately 450 books belonging to the library of this Lodge have been indexed and members always have access to library services. The Presidential Representative of the TS in **Costa Rica**, Mrs María Orlich, writes that they have had a decrease of two members, bringing their membership to 64 in 5 Lodges that meet regularly throughout the year. In addition to several study courses based on classic theosophical texts, two three-month courses were offered freely to the public during the year: an introduction to Theosophy given by Mrs Orlich and others, and a Self-Transformation Seminar based on Vic Hao Chin Jr's book. The TS in **Central America** gave monthly public video lectures on a variety of theosophical

subjects. It has 13 members in two Lodges, one in Nicaragua and the other in El Salvador, which manages its own web page: <www.sociedadteosoficaelsalvador.org>. The TS in **Venezuela** has 14 members in two Lodges that have been giving Sunday lectures three times a month, including a study on Annie Besant's *The Path of Discipleship*, given by Mrs Nelly Nouel.

Moving on to the largest Section in Europe, the **English Section** has a new National President, Mrs Jenny Baker, since April. She is grateful to Mr Colin Price for his 10 years of hard work and dedication to the Society in the post. Their Summer School was held near Birmingham, where I went to be their chief guest speaker, accompanied by my wife Lily and daughter Angelique. The School was attended by more than 100 people and was a joyous and uplifting occasion. Their Diploma Course is in its fifth year and continues to attract members who wish to study theosophical teachings in depth. Other Sections throughout the world have taken up the course and a Higher Diploma is in preparation. The process of the Section attaining charitable status is ongoing. In September Mrs Baker was elected to the Council of the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden in the Netherlands. She hopes that the Section will forge closer relationships with their European cousins in the future. The TS in **Scotland** reports that they are on a more sound financial footing. Although membership declined slightly, there are new faces attending regularly. Dundee Lodge meetings are well attended. Mr Joe McIntyre, its President,

is an inspiration to all, and Ms Ali Macqueen has put on an excellent programme on 'The Mind.' Edinburgh Lodge has had a good year. They have welcomed speakers from around Britain and even Australia, India and South America. Glasgow Lodge also had several visiting speakers. The **Welsh Region** Organizing Secretary, Mrs Julie Cunningham, reports an increase in membership from 72 last year to 78, distributed in 4 Lodges and 1 Centre. They are all active with meetings held twice a month, except for Conwy Lodge. Talks were given by visiting speakers sponsored by the Foundation for Theosophical Studies. Ten members completed the Diploma in Theosophy Course offered by the English Section. The TS in **Ireland** Organizing Secretary, Mrs Marie Harkness reports that membership has risen over the past few years and members throughout Ireland have formed solid friendships. The 10th All-Ireland annual Convention was held in June in centrally-located Dublin. Their guest speaker, Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin, spoke on the Convention theme, 'Serving with the Eyes of Spirit: An Infinity Within to Give', a most inspiring talk which was well received.

The Annual Convention of the **Finnish Section** was held at the Helsinki Headquarters in March. Mrs Mirva Jaatinen was elected General Secretary, succeeding Ms Marja Artamaa, the current International Secretary. The Summer School took place in June in Kreivilä on 'Cosmic Laws and Principles according to *The Secret Doctrine*'. Mr

Ingo de Jong, from Sweden, was the guest speaker. In Estonia the Lodges also held their Summer School in June. The highlight of the year was the international President Mr Tim Boyd's visit to Finland and Estonia in August with his family. He gave lectures in Kreivilä, Helsinki, and Tallinn, in Estonia. In addition, members' meetings were held in Helsinki and Tallinn. The Section has 23 Lodges and 2 study groups with a membership of 402. The **Icelandic Section** held their Summer School in Hveragerdi on 'The Kingdom—a symbol of mind and body', with the participation of nine Norwegian members, one of whom gave a talk. Their newsletter *Mundifari* is published three times a year and their website is in both Icelandic and English. The **Swedish Section** membership stands at 162 and six out of their seven Lodges and study groups have been very active during the year. Their General Secretary, Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund, reports that their Summer School had as its theme 'To Live Theosophy', and 17 members participated. Their guest speaker was the International Secretary, Ms Marja Artamaa, who gave three outstanding lectures, and Mr Pertti Spets and Mrs Wiklund contributed with lectures on the theme. The TS in **Norway's** Organizing Secretary, Dr Saleh Noshie writes that their 14 members have kept up their studies and discussions through a web forum that includes 33 others who are also deeply interested in spiritual pursuits.

The National President of the **Italian Section**, Mr Antonio Girardi, tells us that they now have 950 members, a drop of

58 from last year, but this is still the largest Section in the European continent. Their 32 groups and 17 centres carried out meetings for members and public conferences and their website tracks a monthly average of over 3,500 visits. A dedicated section of the website contains videos of theosophical conferences taken during congresses and seminars. It has been recently upgraded by an added section dedicated to the Theosophical Order of Service. They publish their monthly magazine with 1,300 printed copies and over 1,000 subscriptions, and their monthly newsletter is e-mailed to over 3,000 interested readers. The TS in **France** headquarters continued to hold monthly Lodge meetings, free courses three times per month, quarterly videos of J. Krishnamurti, and fortnightly public lectures. In the summer the Vice-President and I paid separate visits to their Paris headquarters. I had an interesting question-and-answer session with the volunteer workers of the Section. The Vice-President's visit was also fruitful with private talks on the work in general and at Adyar. At their National Convention, Mrs Jeannine (Nano) Leguay was elected General Secretary from October 2015, replacing Ms Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu, who had served for six years. The latter was appointed Vice General Secretary in charge of European and international affairs.

The **Spanish Section** held a 4-day Silent Retreat in Girona on Annie Besant's Universal Prayer, 'O, Hidden Life . . .', directed by Ms Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu, with 44 in attendance. She also

conducted a 3-day Seminar in Alicante on 'Self-Realization', attended by 40 people. At Easter the Section held its 37th 3-day 'Iberian Days' programme with 40 attending, on the theme 'The Unity of Life'. Their 7-day Summer School, with 107 participants, was on 'Karma, Dharma, Nirvana, and Mindfulness', and their guest speaker was Mr Chaganti V. K. Maithreya, from Chennai. Dr José Foglia, from Uruguay, visited Arjuna Lodge and gave a public lecture on 'Meditation vs Stress', which was appreciated by many. The TS in **Portugal** held public sessions in Lisbon with different formats, from public talks to panels and discussion groups. Ms Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Chairman of the European Federation of the TS, gave three public talks on 'The Science of Theosophy'. Ms Maria José Barrios, from the Spanish Section, delivered a public talk at Lisbon and Oporto on 'Reflections on the Path'. There are now 123 members in the Section, a slight decrease, as reported by Mr Carlos Guerra, their General Secretary.

Mrs Manuela Kaulich, General Secretary of the TS in **Germany**, writes that their Southern Meeting was held in September in Regensburg, with Mr Chaganti V. K. Maithreya as visiting speaker. The theme was 'Dharma, Karma, and Yoga'. Many members and guests came to listen to his five talks. At the end of his visit, he gave a public talk in Munich on 'Ancient Wisdom and Modern Science', attended by over 60 guests. The Section membership rose from 112 to 119, with younger people being attracted by our theosophical work. The **Dutch**

Section held a members' National Board meeting at the end of May where a new General Secretary, Mr Wim Leys, was elected, succeeding Ms Els Rijneker. The Section's activities included two 5-day seminars, one in May with Prof. P. Krishna on 'A Revolution in Education' and another in June on HPB's *Esoteric Instructions* led by Michael Gomes. Another 'Dutch Day' was held on 23 August, an interactive programme for members only, that I participated in. On the previous evening I met with the younger members of the Dutch Society. The Section membership is now 330, a drop of 17 since last year. The TS in **Austria** stands steady at 49 members. All three Lodges offer weekly lectures throughout the year on classical theosophical teachings and related subjects and lectures are regularly uploaded on their website. In March the annual meeting of the Austrian Association was held, where Mr Albert Schichl was re-elected as Organizing Secretary. The **Belgian Section** and its Lodges strengthened activities and functioning during the year. They also welcomed international guests in their Brussels headquarters. General Secretary Mrs Sabine van Osta welcomed Mrs Nancy Secrest, International Secretary of the Theosophical Order of Service, who visited in May and rekindled the work of the TOS in Belgium. She also welcomed Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, our international Vice-President, in July, who gave two much-appreciated lectures. The Section has 92 members in 9 Lodges.

The TS in **Greece** reports that,

out of their 11 Lodges, 'Apollon' Lodge in Athens and 'Kaviros' Lodge in Alexandroupolis are temporarily inactive. Study group 'Prokris' in the island of Cephalonia is working well, and 'Radamanthis' and 'Minos' Lodges in the island of Crete are doing very well. Their magazine is printed every three months, going to about 500 subscribers. **Slovenia** has 54 members. They held three Schools during the year: the Spring School, organized by Lodge Surya on 'Dignity in the Light of Theosophy', had 28 participants; the Summer School, organized by Lodge Adyar, was conducted excellently by Mr Bhupendra Vora on the *Bhagavadgītā* with 25 participants; and the Autumn School, organized by Lodge Understanding, was conducted by the Organizing Secretary, Mrs Breda Zagar; on *At the Feet of The Master* — 'Love', with 24 participants. The TS in **Hungary** has 39 members, but a third of them are staying in the countryside, so they can take part in meetings only occasionally. There are only 12-15 active members living in or near Budapest and a few in or near Debrecen, in eastern Hungary. They had two General Meetings and 10 public lectures during the year, continuing the work in all three Lodges, one in the countryside and the other two in Budapest.

The work of the Regional Association in **Ukraine** continues with 95 members, an increase of 6, in 5 Branches and 3 study centres, with the formation of the third study centre, 'Proteus', in Dnipropetrovsk. Mrs Svitlana Gavrylenko, the Organizing Secretary, tells us that at

four of the Branches and all study centres regular meetings are conducted and classic theosophical literature is studied. In November they had their 10th All-Ukrainian Convention in Kyiv on 'A New Mind for a New Time' with more than 50 participants. In July they held their 10-day Summer School in the Carpathian Mountains on 'Ethics as the Soul of Divine Wisdom' with 26 active participants. They have active TOS members and volunteers in five cities, and a Science Group in Dnipropetrovsk, where nine publications and eight reports are prepared. Their website, <www.theosophy.in.ua>, continues its work, and every Branch and study centre has their own page on the website. Mr Pavel Malakhov, Presidential Representative of the TS in **Russia**, reports that the theosophical movement in their Agency is getting stronger, with numerous gatherings and study activities throughout the year. They have 159 members, an increase of 4, in 8 Lodges. Anahata branch (in Moscow) gave 12 public lectures on theosophical basics. It uses SMS and e-mail mailing lists to inform about their activities. There was a Facebook page created to support the Museum, <<http://www.facebook.com/hpbhouse>>, and a variety of Internet activities involving Russian members in their official website, <<http://ts-russia.org>>, including a weekly, year round, Skype webinar on *The Secret Doctrine* conducted by Mr Malakhov.

The **East and Central African Section** has a new General Secretary, Mr Narendra Shah, elected from 2015 to 2017, at their annual 47th Convention, held in early April in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Mrs Ananya

S. Rajan was the guest speaker at the Convention and she gave subsequent lecture tours in Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Kitwe, Mufulira, and Kampala. Their Section comprises four countries (or Regions): Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia. Unfortunately, out of their five Lodges, only two are very active and have a good number of members. Membership shows a decrease of 20 members from 155 last year to 135. This year's Annual Convention in **West Africa** was to be held in June in Accra, but the General Secretary, Mr John Boakye, reports that it had to be held in September in Koforidua due to serious flooding that followed their seasonal rainfall, causing a disaster with over 200 deaths. The Convention theme was 'Theosophy in a Changing World and the Cycle of Life' and turned out to be quite worthwhile. The member in whose home the Convention was held, the Secretary of the Lodge in Koforidua, passed away six weeks thereafter. He had spoken on 'Theosophy in Daily Life' at the Convention and had been an indefatigable dedicated member. The number of members for the Section stands at 238. The TS in **South Africa**'s General Secretary, Mr Jack Hartmann, writes that activities geared to spiritual growth of members were conducted mainly in the Lodges, including public meetings, study groups, and yoga classes on a regular basis. Thought is being given to attracting younger members. The Johannesburg Lodge has redesigned its library, holding 8,800 titles, and their Section magazine is to be published in an electronic form

to reduce costs. Their membership is now at 174, a drop of 35.

Covenant Lodge, in Tel-Aviv, Israel, held 3 public meetings each month in their centres. They held members' meetings on a weekly basis, 3 meetings every month, with an average participation of 10. They also offer weekend seminars, courses, and workshops with up to 75 participating. Six active monthly study groups, with 7–14 members in each, focus on various theosophical subjects. Their membership is 71, a decrease of 3 members.

In addition to the Covenant Lodge, there are 6 other Lodges attached to Adyar, totalling 80 members, and 31 Fellows at Large included in our membership.

In the **International Headquarters**, a number of tasks were accomplished and are listed below. In general, the wages of all workers were raised by an average of 35 per cent, keeping in view the minimum wages fixed for Tamil Nadu state. The proceedings of the 2014 Annual Convention were live-streamed for the first time. A new website for the TS was launched in September 2015. The number of international volunteers has increased in Adyar. A long-term cover was placed over the Adyar theatre open-seating area with a significant donation from the TS in America. A renovation plan for the Adyar campus was initiated with the help of renowned architect, Mr Michiel Haas from the Netherlands, and fundraising for renovations has started. The Adyar campus has now two sets of new public toilets, one near each gate, and informative signboards have been placed around the campus. The dining area of

Leadbeater Chambers was remodelled. The cover design for the monthly magazine *The Theosophist* was improved. A new National Section (for Bolivia) was chartered, the first new section in 22 years. The Anthroposophical Society held their annual conference in the TS campus for the first time this year.

The **Archives and Museum**, closed for several years, are now working with a team of four volunteers. An archivist from the TS in America visited our archives for one month. A range of materials was tested for toxicity and the results were found negative. The air conditioners have been repaired and are working on a 24x7 basis. Extra funding has been provided for restoration of documents, photographs, pictures, and other objects. But more funding is required, and as the building is leaking, apart from being too close to the Adyar River, a new building is required for housing the archives and museum. At the **Adyar Library and Research Centre** the digitizing of palm leaf and other manuscripts was initiated. Funds were provided to computerize the Adyar Library catalogue. The staff has been strengthened with one director, one professor, two research officers, and one research associate. Mr K. Jaikumar was appointed during the year to look after the Library systems and their automation. The Shankaracharya Sanskrit University has been requested to grant affiliation to our Library as a recognized centre for undertaking doctoral research. The Adyar Library Bulletin, *Brahmavidya*, was published for 2014-15, and is now up-

to-date. The first course of the **School of the Wisdom** in November 2014 studied H. P. Blavatsky's *The Voice of the Silence*, with Prof. R. C. Tampi. This was followed by 'The Psychology of Yoga' with Mr P. K. Jayaswal. Mr Vicente Hao Chin Jr, directed the course on 'Self-Transformation and the Spiritual Life', and Ms Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu led 'The Science of Theosophy: Foundation and Practice' class in January 2015. The **Theosophical Publishing House** released 22 books (20 reprints and 2 new compilations). The Editorial Department prepared a special double issue of *The Theosophist* on Dr Radha Burnier, brought out on 31 October 2014, her first death anniversary. Ms H. Sripriya took over as Secretary of the **Olcott Education Society (OES)** in January 2015. The 12th class commerce stream students of the Olcott Memorial School took their final examination this year. The humanity stream at the higher secondary level was started in the previous year, and the science stream has been started this year. Arrangements were made with the British Council for teaching English to the teachers and students of the School. The salaries for teachers and staff of the OES were increased further in addition to the increases made last year. The **Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary** remains open on Sundays and closed on Tuesdays. New surgical equipment for birth control was purchased by the new veterinary surgeon, Dr P. Ramachandran, who was appointed in July. There were a total of 3,116 cases attended during the year. The **Besant Scout Camping Centre** reported that 21

institutions and scout groups utilized the services of the Centre and around 1,350 children benefited through camping activities in line with theosophical values.

The **Theosophical Order of Service** experienced a major change this year when their International Secretary position passed from Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin to Mrs Nancy Secrest of Washington, USA, on 1 December 2014. Diana's 20 years of service saw a marked increase in the number of TOS Groups, programs, and activities around the world. Their website began under her watch as did the quarterly e-newsletter. The TOS is currently present in 36 of the 55 countries where the TS is active. This year, their presence was added in Belgium and Israel. This year also saw the inauguration of a TOS International Facebook Page, <www.facebook.com/tosinternational>. Of special mention, the TOS members in Sundarban, India, formed a TS Lodge and built the Radha Burnier Memorial Hall, where hundreds of poor village women are receiving vocational training; and in November 2014,

the TOS Urus Branch in Oruro City, Bolivia, was awarded a medal by the country's Legislative Assembly 'in recognition of its outstanding community service and commitment to the improvement of the material and spiritual conditions of humanity, including animals and Nature.'

As to **international visits** by Headquarters officers, I travelled to various countries and met TS members and groups in England, Finland, Estonia, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Singapore, the USA, and India. The Vice-President, Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, visited the Section headquarters in Belgium, France, and the Netherlands, including the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden, and also participated in the International Theosophy Conference held in The Hague. Finally, the International Secretary, Ms Marja Artamaa, participated in Theosophical activities in Finland, Estonia, and the Netherlands, and also spoke at the Swedish Summer School.

I now wish you a fruitful and uplifting time at our Adyar campus.

TIM BOYD

**THE TREASURER'S REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2015**

TREASURER'S REPORT 2014-2015

Takeover of Trust Funds

President, and the Executive Committee agreed to receive subject to the condition that all the commitments of the said Trusts, would be honoured by the Society the undermentioned funds from the two Trusts of which our former President, Mrs Radha S. Burnier, was the Managing Trustee.

Annie Besant Trust : Rs. 19,201,035/-

N. Sriram Trust : Rs. 5,400,000/-

They were duly received, credited to the respective Endowment Funds in the Society's records, and invested in the Nationalised Banks and Financial Institutions of the Government. Still there are shares of certain Limited Companies which are in the process of transfer to the Society's name and then, have to be encashed within a year from the date of transfer under the provisions of the TN Societies Registration Act, 2003, as well as the Income Tax Act, 1962.

The salient features of the Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2014 are as under:

1. INCOME

The details of the income for the year ended 31st March 2015 as compared to the previous year 2013-14 are as follows:

	Year ended 31.03.2015	Year ended 31.03.2014
	Rs.	Rs.
a) Gross interest Received from the investment	25,040,642	24,934,807
b) Fees and Dues from Sections	2,254,733	2,537,443
c) Donations – General	392,481	1,532,987
d) Licence Fees	60,000	144,000
e) Miscellaneous income		1,479
f) The Thosopical Publishing house	—	1,092,414
Total	27,747,856	30,243,130
Less: Interest transferred to earmarked funds	9,508,416	9,918,117
Total	<u>18,239,440</u>	<u>20,325,013</u>

The gross income for the year has come down by about Rupees Twenty Lakhs compared to previous year. The Fees and Dues from Sections and general donations have also come down by about 8%. The reduction in the interest rates of investments had no bearing on the interest income of the year. However, in the current year, the income from interest on investments is going to substantially come down in view of the interest rates having been reduced from 9.5% to

8.5% and rumour goes that it may further come down to 7.5%. Sufficient care should be taken to limit the expenditure in the current year or else we may have to face a cash crunch.

2. EXPENDITURE

General: In response to the claim that the employees are paid too low a salary, the President and the Executive Committee approved to increase the salaries keeping in view the minimum wages announced by the state government of Tamilnadu with effect from 1st January, 2015, resulted in the increase of gross salary bill of Rs.12.50 lakhs per month. This increase in salary affected the working results of every department.

The summary of the expenditure of the Society under different heads after taking credit for the interest appropriated from respective funds:

	Year ended 31.03.2015	Year ended 31.03.2014
	Rs.	Rs.
a) Departments	10,978,313	10,565,143
b) Charitable work	571,740	433,784
c) Propagation of Theosophy	1,074,044	344,345
d) International Offices	1,390,768	960,495
e) Establishment	4,274,203	3,651,789
f) Other Expenses	4,488,920	1,564,275
g) Education End Fund	<hr/>	<hr/>
	22,777,988	19,519,831

The gross functional results of each Department are explained here under:

(a) Departments

Departments	Year ended 31.03.2015	Year ended 31.03.2014
	Rs.	Rs.
Bhajanasala and Leadbeater Chambers	1,352,968	776,637
Garden	2,209,065	1,889,481
Maintenance	<u>7,779,280</u>	<u>8,289,025</u>
	<u>11,341,313</u>	<u>10,955,143</u>

(a) (i) Bhajanasala and Leadbeater Chambers:

There is an increase in expenditure of Rs.576,331 from Rs.2,355,571 of last year to Rs. 2,891,487 of current year while the income has come down to Rs.1,538,519 of this year from Rs.1,578,934, resulting in an increased net deficit of Rs.1,352,968 compared to last year's Rs.776,637. This is expected to further increase during 2015-16 due to continued inflationary trend.

(a) (ii) Garden:

The cultivation has resulted in an increase of gross profit of Rs.503,654 for the year compared to Rs.228,247 of previous year because of higher yield from cashewnut and coconut.

However, due to higher maintenance cost, increase in salaries and higher provision for gratuity, the net deficit resulted in an increase to Rs.2,209,065 from Rs.1,889,481 of last year.

(a) (iii) Maintenance:

The net expenditure of the Department has come down to Rs.9,412,425 for the year from Rs.9,822,804 of last year, whereas the income has increased to Rs.1,633,145 from Rs.1,533,779 of last year, resulting in a small surplus of Rs.509,745. There are stocks valued at Rs.7.50 lakhs as on 31.03.2015.

The availability of a full time Superintendant for the department is the need of the hour. There is scope for better inventory management in a scientific manner.

(b) Charitable Work

The expenditure under different categories was spent during the year compared to the previous year as under:

Year ended	Year ended on	Year ended on
	31.03.2015	31.03.2014
	Rs.	Rs.
Animal Welfare	721,584	826,514
B.M. Animal Dispensary	906,463	—
Free dispensary & Medical Aid	300,397	232,064
Theosophical Order of Service	200,000	100,000
HPB Hostel	—	144,000
Education	45,000	1,812,000
Welfare Grants	21,243	111,220
School Fees and Books	46,500	87,500
Social Welfare Work	25,967	60,133
Others	3,600	3,000
	<u>2,270,754</u>	<u>3,376,431</u>

(b) (i) Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary:

The Dispensary hitherto managed by Olcott Education Society, was taken over by TS with effect from 1st April, 2014, and its assets and liabilities were duly taken into the TS books, since it is felt more convenient to undertake along with our other Animal Welfare Work.

(c) Propagation of Theosophy

The expenditure on propagation of Theosophy for the year under different heads was as under:

	Year ended 31.03.2015	Year ended 31.03.2014
	Rs.	Rs.
a) Adyar Library and Research Centre	1,360,320	1,156,827
b) The Theosophical Publishing House	187,646	—
c) <i>The Theosophist</i> and <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	391,227	53,286
d) Vasanta Press	440,536	275,768
e) School of the Wisdom	50,686	74,840
f) Book Gifts	50,272	65,410
g) Convention & Seminars	1,486,743	966,207
h) Archives & Museum	50,724	—
i) Others	3,911	15,291
	<u>4,022,065</u>	<u>2,607,629</u>

(c) (a) Adyar Library and Research Centre publications:

The following figures of are taken from the published accounts of the Society:

	Year ended 31.03.2015	Year ended 31.03.2014
	Rs.	Rs.
Opening Stock	1,071,986	1,565,026
Add Publishing Exps	<u>1,000,311</u>	<u>455,002</u>
TOTAL A	<u>2,072,297</u>	<u>2,020,028</u>
 Sales	287,738	260,317
Closing	<u>1,565,026</u>	<u>1,712,294</u>
TOTAL B	<u>1,852,764</u>	<u>1,972,611</u>
Loss (A-B)	<u>-219,533</u>	<u>-47,417</u>

(c) (b) The Theosophical Publishing House:

There was a working deficit of Rs.327,866 for the year 2014-15, while compared to the surplus of Rs.1,092,414 for the previous year. Royalties & copyright fees are reduced from Rs.806,607 to Rs.234,907 for the current year. Enhancement of salaries and consequent increase in PF, ESI, and provision for gratuity contributed to the loss.

(c) (c) *The Theosophist* and *Adyar Newsletter*:

There was a substantial increase in the cost of paper and labour for printing and binding. The decrease in the interest income and in subscribers also contributed for increased loss for the year of Rs.391,227 compared to Rs.53,286 of last year.

(c) (d) Vasanta Press:

The working of the Press has resulted in the increase of gross loss of Rs. 80,163 for

the year from Rs.21,980 of last year. Over and above this loss, the Press incurred Rs. 360,373 by way of administration expenses. Thus the total loss incurred by the Press was Rs. 440,536 for the year 2014-15, compared to the loss of Rs.275,768 of last year.

(c) (e) Convention & Seminars:

A sum of Rs.1,486,743 was incurred for the Convention this year compared to Rs. 966,207 of last year. The general increase in cost of erection of temporary pandals for the Adyar Theatre and the Canteen and one time payment for live web casting are main items of increased expenditure. However, the whole expenditure was met from the income from the relative Endowment Fund.

3. INTERNATIONAL OFFICES

The expenses of International offices were as follows:

	Year ended 31.03.2015	Year ended 31.03.2014
	Rs.	Rs.
President & Vice President	139,663	66,807
Treasury	836,991	624,055
Secretary	<u>414,114</u>	<u>269,633</u>
	<u>1,390,768</u>	<u>960,495</u>

The increased activity initiated by the newly elected officers and increase in the staff salaries resulted in the increased expenditure. The above figures include the total departmental expenditure.

4. ESTABLISHMENT

The total expenditure on the establishment of other departments including Security, Housekeeping and Sanitation for the year was Rs.4,655,203 compared to the expenditure of previous year of Rs.3,710,789. The increase was due to general inflationary trend, besides the substantial increase by 35% of salaries of all employees during the year.

5. NET DEFICIT

The net expenditure of Rs.22,777,988 incurred after appropriation of income from relevant Endowment Funds and the income of Rs.18,239,440 has resulted in a net deficit of Rs.4,538,548 for the year. This is the result of heavier expenditure in all the departments due to enhanced salaries and the loss incurred, besides a provision of Rs. 2,000,000 towards labour payment in a case pending in the court of law.

6. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

During the Year an expenditure of Rs.2,359,111 was incurred on acquisition of assets, which include buildings, plant and machinery and electrical & telephone installations compared

to such expenditure on assets of Rs.2,678,512 during the previous year.

7. FUNDS & INVESTMENTS

a) During the year the increase in contributions to various Endowment Funds compared to those of previous year are as under

	Year ended 31.03.2015	Year ended 31.03.2014
	Rs.	Rs.
1. ABC Endowment Fund	92,024,588	86,297,163
2. Adyar Library End. Fund	16,724,095	16,380,263
3. Adyar Security End. Fund	810,883	660,883
4. Annie Besant End. Fund	19,201,035	—
5. N. Sriram End. Fund	<u>5,400,000</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>134,160,601</u>	<u>103,338,309</u>

b) The President of Australian Section, Mrs Linda Oliveira has contributed, a sum of Rs. 327,000 from the Section and another sum of Rs. 150,000 on behalf of E.S.T. towards Adyar Security Fund which is appreciated.

c) The investments of the Society by the end of the year amount to Rs. 301,415,494 an increase of Rs. 36,156,077 over the previous year's investment of Rs. 265,259,417.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

On behalf of the Society, I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the continued support of the President, members of the Executive Committee, and General Council, and members throughout the world.

Chennai

Date: 25-10-2015

K. Narasimha Rao

Honorary Treasurer

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED
From 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 (in Rupees)

Name of Section etc.	2013-2014	2014-2015
The Theosophical Society in:		
Africa, East and Central	18,408	930
Africa, South	7,067	—
Africa, Central	—	—
Africa, West	—	—
Argentina and Paraguay	—	163,073
Asia, East and South-East	—	—
– Japan	19,112	16,915
– Malaysia	—	—
– Singapore	—	—
Australia	699,481	195,943
Austria	—	—
Bangladesh	—	—
Belgium	92,251	41,951
Bolivia	28,881	62,659
Brazil	—	—
Canada	28,053	24,613
Costa Rica	—	—
Chile	—	—
Colombia	—	—
Cuba	—	—
Dominican Republic	—	13,625
England	—	—
Finland	129,370	121,117
France	90,597	77,052
Germany	52,682	98,966
Greece	—	—
Hungary	—	53,933
Iceland	—	—
India	146,700	142,516
Indonesia	12,050	44,633
Indonesia, Lodge Sofia	—	4,800
Italy	164,466	226,374

Ireland	10,999	—
Ivory Coast	—	—
Israel	58,418	—
Mexico	—	34,270
Netherlands, The	502	—
New Zealand	—	—
Norway	5,000	—
Pakistan	—	—
Peru	17,506	—
Philippines, The	—	—
Portugal	—	—
Puerto Rico	25,379	17,652
Russia	113,064	16,737
Scotland	—	—
Slovenia	15,077 ^{**}	12,100
Spain	—	164,957
Sri Lanka	—	—
Sweden	—	—
Switzerland	30,119	28,260
Togo	—	—
Ukraine	—	6,881
Uruguay	—	43,743
USA	716,946	607,299
Wales	21,075	11,453
Venezuela	—	—

Lodges attached to Adyar:

Lotus Lodge (Croatia)	10,042	9,792
EL Sol (Ecuador)	—	—
Arc en Ciel, and Ananda	—	—
Lodges (France)	—	—
Covenant Lodge (Israel)	58,418	—
Orlando Lodge (USA)	8,645	—
Blavatsky Lodge (Qatar)	—	5,000
Fellows-at-large	15,553	7,491

2,595,861 2,254,735

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
BALANCE SHEET AS

As at 31-3-2014	LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2015	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
	General Fund:			
47,460,097	Balance as per last Balance Sheet		48,265,279	
805,182	Surplus / Deficit for the year		4,538,548	43,726,731
48,265,279				
161,189,779	Endowment Funds	6		192,012,071
75,120,503	Other Funds	7		80,947,918
10,940,139	Current Liabilities and Provisions	8		14,532,946
1,243,000	Legacy Deposits			1,243,000
296,758,700				332,462,666

This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our report.

For SRIHARI & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

CHENNAI
20 Aug. 2015

E. S. NEELAKANTAN
Partner

ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

AT 31ST MARCH 2015

As at 31-3-2014	ASSETS	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2015	
Rs. 13,180,133	Fixed Assets	1	Rs.	Rs. 14,325,274
265,259,417	Investments: (At cost) In Scheduled Banks and Financial Institutions	2		301,415,494
	Current Assets, Loans and Advances:			
8,744,333	Stocks	3	8,796,121	
873,358	Sundry Debtors		319,902	
1,611,232	Loans and Advances	4	1,348,031	
7,090,227	Cash and Bank Balances	5	6,257,844	
18,319,150				16,721,898
296,758,700				332,462,666

Schedule Numbers 1 to 8 and Notes on Accounts
form part of the Balance Sheet.

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

K.NARASIMHA RAO
Hon. Treasurer

**THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Year ended 31-3-2014	EXPENDITURE	Schedule No.	Year ended 31-3-2015
			Rs.
10,565,143	Departments	(A)	10,978,313
433,784	Charitable Work	(B)	571,740
344,345	Propagation of Theosophy	(C)	1,074,044
960,495	International Offices	(D)	1,390,768
3,651,789	Establishment	(E)	4,274,203
1,564,275	Other Expenses	(F)	4,488,920
2,000,000	Transferred to Education Endowment Fund		
805,182	Surplus transferred to General Fund		
20,325,013			22,777,988

For SRIHARI & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

CHENNAI
20 Aug. 2015

E. S. NEELAKANTAN
Partner

ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2015

Year ended 31-3-2014	INCOME	Year ended 31-3-2015	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
	Propagation of Theosophy: (Net Income)		
1,092,414	The Theosophical Publishing House		—
1,532,987	General Donations		274,017
24,934,807	Interest Received	25,040,642	
9,918,117	Less: Transferred to Various Funds	9,508,416	
15,016,690			15,532,226
2,537,443	Fees and Dues		2,254,733
144,000	License Fees		60,000
1,479	Miscellaneous Receipts		—
	Adyar Day Donations	*	118,464
	Deficit		4,538,548
20,325,013			22,777,988

Schedules A to F and Notes on Accounts form part of the Income & Expenditure

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

K. NARASIMHA RAO
Hon. Treasurer

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C:

	EXPENDITURE	FUNDS TRANSFERRED	BALANCE
Sch (A): Departments			
Bhojanasala & LBC	1,352,968		1,352,968
Garden	2,209,065	363,000	1,846,065
Maintenance	7,779,280		7,779,280
			10,978,313
Sch (B): Charitable Work			
Animal Welfare	721,584	721,584	0
Education	45,000	45,000	0
Welfare Grants	21,243		21,243
Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	300,397		300,397
School Fees and Books	46,500		46,500
Social Welfare Work	25,967	25,967	0
Theosophical Order of service	200,000		200,000
BMAD	906,463	906,463	0
Others	3,600		3,600
			571,740
Sch (C): Propogation of Theosophy			
Adyar Library and Research Centre	1,360,320	1,360,320	0
The Theosophical Publishing House	187,646		187,646
<i>The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter</i>	391,227		391,227
Archives and Museum	50,724		50,724
Theosophy Science Centre	3,911		3,911
Vasanta Press	440,536		440,536
School of the Wisdom	50,686	50,686	0
Book Gift	50,272	50,272	0
Convention & Seminars	1,486,743	1,486,743	0
			1,074,044
Sch (D): International Offices			
President and Vice-President	139,663		139,663
Treasurer	836,991		836,991
Secretary	414,114		414,114
Travelling	102,819	102,819	0
			1,390,768
Sch (E): Establishment			
Headquarters	300,633		300,633
General Manager's Office	231,668		231,668
Housekeeping	720,910		720,910
Sanitation	495,777		495,777
Security	2,906,215	381,000	2,525,215
			4,274,203
Sch (F): Other Expenses			
Insurance	6,242		6,242
Legal and Court Expenses	182,336		182,336
Audit Fees	120,561		120,561
Rates and Taxes	528,633		528,633
Bank Charges	4,302		4,302
Depreciation	710,908		710,908
Motor Car Expenses	107,329		107,329
Miscellaneous	202,825		202,825
Provision for Gratuity	625,784		625,784
Provision for Labour	2,000,000		2,000,000
			4,488,920
Grand Total	(Rs.)	28,271,842	5,493,854
			22,777,988

For SRIHARI & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

E. S. NEELAKANTAN
Partner

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

K. NARASIMHA RAO
Hon. Treasurer

CHENNAI
20 Aug. 2015

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-2017

(Rupees in Thousands)

EXPENDITURE					INCOME				
	Actuals 14-15	Budget 15-16	Revised 15-16	Budget 16-17		Actuals 14-15	Budget 15-16	Revised 15-16	Budget 16-17
Departments (Net Expenditure)					Propagation of Theosophy				
Bhajanala & Leadbeater Chambers	1,353	1,304	1,700	2,413	Theosophical Publishing House		790		
Garden	2,209	2,375	2,500	2,755	General Donations	274	100	2,600	500
Maintenance	7,779	9,154	21,000	12,284	Interest (Net)	15,532	16,000	15,000	15,000
Utilization from Other Funds	-363	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	Membership Fees and Dues	2,255	3,000	3,000	3,000
Charitable Work					Licence Fees	60	-		
Animal Welfare	1,627	2,000	3,000	2,500	Miscellaneous Receipts		10	10	10
Education	45	2,500	2,500	3,500	Adyar Day Donations	118			200
Welfare Grants	21	200	200	200	Deficit		4,539	18,464	12,716
Free Dispensary & Medical Aid	300	300	350	350					
School Fees and Books	46	200	200	250					
Social Welfare Work	26	150	150	150					
HPB Hostel		150	150	150					
TOS	200	-	-						
Others	4	2	4	6					
Utilization from Other Funds	-1,698	-4,800	-5,800	-6,300					
Propagation of Theosophy									
Adyar Library and Research Centre	1,360	1,504	1,800	1,696					
Theosophical Publishing House	188		500	158					
<i>The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter</i>	391	36	500	425					
Vasanta Press	441	331	400	550					
Information and Public Relations		10	10	150					
Archives and Museum	51	1	700	700					
Theosophy-Science Centre	4	300	300	300					
School of the Wisdom	51	100	200	200					
Book Gift	50	50	100	200					
Convention & Seminars	1,487	1,000	1,500	1,500					
IT				300					
Utilization from Other Funds	-2,948	-2,654	-2,650	-3,346					
International Offices									
President and Vice-President	140	100	250	250					
Treasurer	837	700	1,000	1,500					
Secretary	414	400	500	600					
Travelling	103								
Utilization from Other Funds	-103								
Establishment									
Headquarters	301	300	300	500					
General Manager's Office	232	200	250	300					
Housekeeping	721	700	1,025	900					
Sanitation	496	500	700	700					
Security	2,906	4,000	4,000	4,000					
Utilization from Other Funds	-381		-	-400					
Other Expenses									
Insurance Premiums	6	10	25	25					
Legal Expenses	182	80	200	300					
Audit Fees	121	150	150	150					
Rates and Taxes	529	200	500	600					
Bank Charges	4	5	10	10					
Depreciation	711	600	600	600					
Motor Car Maintenance	107	60	100	150					
Miscellaneous	203	150	150	150					
Provision for Gratuity	626	300	1,000	1,000					
Provision for Labour	2,000		2,000	2,000					
Excess of Income over Expenditure		232							
	22,779	19,900	39,074	31,426					
						22,778	19,900	39,074	31,426

HEADQUARTERS

**ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
INDIA**

HEADQUARTERS

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2015

Executive Committee:

1.	Mr Tim Boyd	<i>President</i>
2.	Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy	<i>Vice-President</i>
3.	Ms Marja Artamaa	<i>Secretary</i>
4.	Mr K. Narasimha Rao	<i>Treasurer</i>
5.	Mr S. Sundaram	<i>General Council Member</i>
6.	Prof. R. C. Tampi	<i>General Council Member</i>
7.	Mr S. Harihara Raghavan	<i>Member</i>
8.	Dr M. V. Rengarajan	<i>Member</i>
9.	Prof. C. A. Shinde	<i>Member</i>
10.	Mr A. L. Somayaji	<i>Member</i>

General Manager

Adyar Library

Director (Sanskrit Studies)
Librarian

Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary

Doctor

Bhajanasala

Superintendent

Garden

Superintendent

Housekeeping

Superintendent

Information

Leadbeater Chambers

Asst. Superintendent

Maintenance

Superintendent

Medical Service

Doctors

Museum and Archives

Officer in Charge

Sanitation

In-charge (temporary)

School of the Wisdom

Director

Security

Superintendent

Theosophical Publishing House

Acting Manager

Vasanta Press

Manager

Mr S. Harihara Raghavan

Dr T. Narayankutty

Prof. C. A. Shinde

Dr J. Samuel Jeyachandran (until May 2015)

Dr P. Ramachandran (from 1 June 2015)

Mrs Usha Umakanth Rao

Mr S. A. Sanghram

Mr S. M. Amarnath Rao

Mrs Veena Ramachandran

Mr M. Dharmalingam

Dr S. D. Inbaraj & Dr R. Revathy

Mrs Kusum Satapathy

Mr S. M. Amarnath Rao

Prof. R. C. Tampi

Mr J. Suresh

Mr S. M. Umakanth Rao

Mr V. Gopalan

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Chairman

Mr Tim Boyd

Secretary

Ms Sripriya Raghavan

Treasurer

Mr T. S. Jambunathan

Ms B. Lakshmi (until 31 May 2015)

Mrs R. Lalita (from 1 June 2015)

Mrs R. Mythili

Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan

Mrs Vijaya Ravindran

Olcott Memorial Higher

Secondary School

Headmistress

Social Welfare Centre

Administrator

Vocational Training Centre

Superintendent

HPB Hostel

Warden

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2015

National Societies and Sections			27	Section/Area	Number of Lodges Centres Members		
Section/Area	Number of Lodges Centres Members				NA	NA	NA
Regional Associations	13			29. Italy	32	17	950
Presidential Agencies	12			30. Ivory Coast	3		22
Lodges Attached to Adyar	7			31. Mexico	12	5	155
Total Lodges	944			32. Netherlands	10	7	330
Total Centres	164			33. New Zealand	13	4	676
Total Membership 2014	26,497			34. Norway	-	-	14
Total Membership 2015	25,920			35. Pakistan	NA	NA	NA
Section/Area	Number of Lodges Centres Members			36. Peru	2	-	37
				37. Philippines	18	10	269
1. Africa, East and Central	5	-	135	38. Portugal	10	2	123
2. Africa, South	6	1	174	39. Puerto Rico	3	-	36
3. Africa, West	11	-	238	40. Russia	8	-	159
4. America, Central	2	-	13	41. Scotland	3	1	132
5. Argentina (and Paraguay)	18	8	340	42. Slovenia	4	-	54
6. Asia, South East	4	-	555	43. Spain	14	5	327
7. Australia	11	5	870	44. Sri Lanka	3	-	182
8. Austria	3	-	49	45. Sweden	6	-	155
9. Bangladesh	5	-	239	46. Switzerland	5	-	30
10. Belgium	9	-	92	47. Togo	3	3	26
11. Bolivia	11	6	118	48. Ukraine	5	3	95
12. Brazil	32	20	768	49. USA	39	46	3,343
13. Canada	4	3	134	50. Uruguay	5	-	53
14. Chile	3	-	56	51. Venezuela	2	-	14
15. Colombia	6	2	41	52. Wales	4	1	78
16. Costa Rica	5	-	62	Total	937	162	25,738
17. Cuba	12	-	558				
18. Dominican Rep.	2	-	42				
19. England	34	6	1,068				
20. Finland	23	2	402				
21. France	23	1	347	1. Arc de Ciel and Ananda (France)	2	-	30
22. Germany	7	1	118	2. El Sol Lodge, Ecuador	1	-	12
23. Greece	10	1	187	3. Covenant Lodge, Israel	1	2	71
24. Hungary	3	-	39	4. Lotus Lodge, Croácia	1	-	15
25. Iceland	9	-	247	5. Orlando Lodge, USA	1	-	14
26. India	459	-	11,327	6. Blavatsky Lodge, Qatar	1	-	9
27. Indonesia	14	-	187	7. Fellows-at-Large	-	-	31
28. Ireland	2	2	72	Total	944	164	25,920

Note: For Colombia, Ivory Coast, Togo, El Sol Lodge in Ecuador and Blavatsky Lodge in Qatar previous year's data have been repeated in the absence of fresh data.

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

In spite of more and more people buying and reading books online, we continued to get good orders from the world over and a large number from India. Publications of The Theosophical Publishing House (TPH) continued to attract TS members and the general public, which had contributed to the sales turnover of around 2 million rupees over the years. The sales for the current year (April 2014 to March 2015) was 2.13 million rupees, a little less than the previous year's sales of 2.16 million rupees. The Deficit for the year is Rs. 187 thousand compared to the surplus of Rs. 1.092 million in the last year. The main reasons are

1. Royalty Receipts. In the last year the accumulated amount of 3/4 years was received at Rs. 806 thousand and in this year the receipts were Rs. 235 thousand. A deficit of Rs. 571 thousand.
2. The substantial increase in salaries and wages, contribution to the Publication Fund, and provision for gratuity, resulted in a deficit of Rs. 490 thousand.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Col H. S. Olcott established the Adyar Library and Research Centre (ALRC) in 1886 with the main aim of reviving the study of Oriental literature, philosophy, and religion, and encouraging genuine scholars in Indian studies. The Centre is functioning under the guidance of the International President of the Theosophical Society, Mr Tim Boyd. At the outset we all condole and make a note of

The good news is that inspite of the electronic media pervading all fields, the total sale of books continued to be good and there was a marginal increase in sales by Rs. 30 thousand compared to the previous year's sale of Rs. 2780 thousand. The deficit on account of journals publication this year was Rs.391 thousand compared to the previous year's deficit of Rs. 53 thousand. The subscription number continued to be the same as in last year though there was variation in the amounts received.

There was also a fall in interest income of Rs. 21 thousand on account of lower bank interest rates. The online book store <www.adyarbooks.com> continued to get orders regularly. Subscriptions to our two magazines were also received sporadically through this online bookstore.

For the period from October 2014 to September 2015 two new releases and eighteen reprints were brought out.

Mr S. M. Umakanth Rao
Acting Manager

the passing away of our former Director Dr S. Sankaranarayanan and Deputy Librarian Mrs Gnanambal Laxman.

The present editorial board includes the following eminent persons for our journal *Brahmavidyā*:

1. Mr Tim Boyd — Chairman
2. Dr Narayanan Kutty
3. Prof. Christian Lindtner
4. Mr Subhash Kak

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2015

National Societies and Sections	27	Section/Area	Number of Lodges Centres Members		
Regional Associations	13				
Presidential Agencies	12	29. Italy	32	17	950
Lodges Attached to Adyar	7	30. Ivory Coast	3		22
Total Lodges	944	31. Mexico	12	5	155
Total Centres	164	32. Netherlands	10	7	330
Total Membership 2014	26,497	33. New Zealand	13	4	676
Total Membership 2015	25,920	34. Norway	-	-	14
		35. Pakistan	NA	NA	NA
Section/Area	Number of Lodges Centres Members				
1. Africa, East and Central	5	-	135	2	-
2. Africa, South	6	1	174	18	10
3. Africa, West	11	-	238	37	269
4. America, Central	2	-	13	10	2
5. Argentina (and Paraguay)	18	8	340	3	-
6. Asia, South East	4	-	555	36	159
7. Australia	11	5	870	8	-
8. Austria	3	-	49	3	132
9. Bangladesh	5	-	239	4	-
10. Belgium	9	-	92	14	54
11. Bolivia	11	6	118	5	-
12. Brazil	32	20	768	3	182
13. Canada	4	3	134	6	155
14. Chile	3	-	56	5	-
15. Colombia	6	2	41	30	159
16. Costa Rica	5	-	62	5	-
17. Cuba	12	-	558	3	30
18. Dominican Rep.	2	-	42	2	-
19. England	34	6	1,068	14	12
20. Finland	23	2	402	1	-
21. France	23	1	347	1	2
22. Germany	7	1	118	1	-
23. Greece	10	1	187	1	15
24. Hungary	3	-	39	1	-
25. Iceland	9	-	247	1	-
26. India	459	-	11,327	1	-
27. Indonesia	14	-	187	1	-
28. Ireland	2	2	72	1	9
			Total	944	164
				25,920	
Lodges/Members Attached to Adyar					
	Number of Lodges Centres Members				
1. Arc de Ciel and Ananda (France)	2	-	30		
2. El Sol Lodge, Ecuador	1	-	12		
3. Covenant Lodge, Israel	1	2	71		
4. Lotus Lodge, Croácia	1	-	15		
5. Orlando Lodge, USA	1	-	14		
6. Blavatsky Lodge, Qatar	1	-	9		
7. Fellows-at-Large	-	-	31		
Total					

Note: For Colombia, Ivory Coast, Togo, El Sol Lodge in Ecuador and Blavatsky Lodge in Qatar previous year's data have been repeated in the absence of fresh data.

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The present editorial board includes the following eminent persons for our journal *Brahmavidyā*:

1. Mr Tim Boyd — Chairman
2. Dr Narayanan Kutty
3. Prof. Christian Lindtner
4. Mr Subhash Kak

5. Mr N. Kazanas
6. Dr K. N. Neelakantan
7. Dr Ramaratnam
8. Dr G. Gangadharan Nair

Ms T. M. Ramani, Dr S. Bhuvaneshwari, Mrs Padma Padmanabhan, Ms Saswati Mukherjee, and Swami Chidgajananda Puri are associated with the research and publications of the Centre, consulting Dr Mani Dravid, as and when needed, and Mrs S. Jayanthi helps in many ways, including typesetting Library publications, attending to e-mail and regular correspondence, and other work, as assigned.

Prof. C. A. Shinde, Swami Chidgajananda Puri, Ms T. M. Ramani, Mr K. Jaikumar, and Mrs S. Jayanthi, have taken up the work of automation, scanning, and digitization of manuscripts along with the staff, who have been trained by the Swami, to use the new Xerox machine for scanning of paper manuscripts. Prof. Raju donated a computer to the Library. Mr Jaikumar was appointed to work in the Library and to look after automation of the Library.

Seminars

The Sri Vishnu Mohan Foundation and The Adyar Library and Research Centre jointly conducted two seminars, a one-day programme on the theme 'Adhikāritvam' in 2014 and a three-day seminar on 'Liberation through Arts' in 2015. The international President, Mr Tim Boyd, inaugurated both seminars.

Affiliation with Columbia University

A Research Scholar of Columbia University, Mr Jay Ramesh, was affiliated

to the Library to take up his research project titled 'Representing Sacred Space in Medieval South Indian Literature'. The Director of the Library was his Indian research guide.

Pilot Project & Outsourcing

Under the guidance of Dr S. Bhuvaneshwari and supervision of the Librarian, a Pilot project of scanning 10,000 palm-leaf manuscripts was completed in three months (July to September 2015). The updated data is available in PDF format for users.

I. Publications

1. *Brahmavidyā*, The Adyar Library Bulletin Volume, 78-79, 2014-15 (Radha Burnier Commemoration Volume).
2. *Descriptive Catalogue of Manuscripts on Astronomy and Mathematics* by Dr K. V. Sarma.
3. *Samnyāśavīcārah* by Dr S. Bhuvaneshwari.
4. *Vivekamukurah* by Mrs Padma Padmanabhan.

II. Acquisition and Cataloguing

During the year under report, 347 books were purchased, 2,575 books were accessed, and 1,376 books were catalogued and added to the Library collection.

We received 2,238 books from various sources as gifts. Most of these were from the President's Office, TPH, Secretary's Office, TPH Wheaton, and the Rashtriya Sanskrit Samsthān. Dr Radha Burnier's own collection of books along with cupboards are kept for reading in a special room in the Library.

III. Service Rendered

During the year under report, 28,067 frames of photocopies were taken, including transcripts and rare books. The Library was used by 1,846 readers and 720 borrowers who consulted 7,564 books, and borrowed 1,096 books including 42 rare books and 68 manuscripts.

IV. Conservation and Preservation

850 books were bound, 275 photocopied and 670 wrappers pasted, 550 hard-cover books and 520 soft-cover books were repaired.

V. Catalogue Section

4,000 books were catalogued and entered, 5,000 books were checked.

VI. Scholars

9 Scholars from various Universities used the Library.

VIII. Visitors

1,233 persons visited the Display Room and Reading Room'.

Prof. C. A. Shinde
Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

The School of the Wisdom conducted four courses in **Adyar** in the year 2015.

Ms Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu conducted the first course from 5 to 16 January. The theme was 'The Science of Theosophy: Foundation and Practice'. An attempt was made to prove that Theosophy is a science based on a foundation and proven by experimentation.

Dr Pablo Sender explored the practical aspects of Theosophy and their deep theoretical foundation in his course from 2 to 13 November, on the theme 'The Yoga of Philosophy'.

In another course from 16 to 27 November Prof. R. C. Tampi explored the vision of life reflected in Sri Ram's book *Life's Deeper Aspects*.

Mr Vicente Hao Chin Jr approached self-transformation as a foundation for an

integrated and effective life. The theme of the course from 2 to 12 December was 'Self-transformation and Spiritual Life'.

The President Mr Tim Boyd and the Vice-President Dr Satapathy have to be credited with the plan of holding annual sessions of the School of the Wisdom at the Himalayan Centre of Theosophy, **Bhowali**, overlooking the enchanting valley. The ten-day course was inaugurated by Dr Satapathy on 7 September. The first course, directed by Prof. R. C. Tampi based on *Ancient Wisdom — Modern Insight* by Shirley Nicholson, drew participants from the USA, Brazil, Spain, and Australia. The program was hosted by the Indian Section of the TS.

Prof. R. C. Tampi
Director, The School of the Wisdom

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

The **Archives and Museum**, which were closed for several years for lack of proper staffing, has been working with a team of four volunteers during the reporting year period (1.10.2014 - 30.9.2015). The archivist from the TS in America, Mrs Janet Kerschner, visited the archives for one month to give instructions and lay the foundations for archiving methods. A range of materials was tested for toxicity and the results were found

negative. The air conditioners have been repaired and are working on a 24x7 basis. Extra funding has been provided for restoration of documents, photographs, pictures, and other objects. The Museum was open during the International Convention with an exhibition on 'The Theosophical Influence on the Paintings of Mrs Florence Fuller'.

Mrs Kusum Satapathy
Officer-in-Charge

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

The Olcott Education Society (OES) continued to function as a separately registered society under the Chairmanship of the President of the Theosophical Society (TS). OES has five units, as follows:

The Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School (OMHSS)

The OMHSS continued to provide free education to economically underprivileged children. The school had 483 students (197 girls and 286 boys). In order to cater to the Class X students passing out from our school, apart from the Arts and Commerce stream, the Science stream in English medium was added this year. The Kindergarten class started in consultation with the Chennai Montessori Training Institute. This program was established with funding from Wipro Cares, with whom a 3-year MOU was signed.

As done before, students were provided with free textbooks, notebooks, stationery supplies, lunch and two sets of uniforms. This year the School was

able to garner funding for buying school bags also. The morning kanji (porridge) was more nutritious due to the addition of milk. Apart from the regular health check-up conducted by Dr R. Revathy, Rotary Mitra organized a Dental Camp. Guidance and counseling continued for the children and parents, and they were provided advice and support in dealing with problems — both academic and emotional. Special classes for children who need extra help were conducted regularly.

On August 3rd, to commemorate the birth anniversary of the School founder, Col. Henry Steel Olcott, a children's book, *Olcott Thatha*, written and illustrated by some of the Class XII students under the guidance of students from George Washington University Art Therapy Program, was released by the School Secretary Mr C. A. Shinde. With support from Sri Beliappa and the Verizon Corporation, 17 teachers were undergoing training from the British Council on

English language teaching and English proficiency building. The school Ecology Club won a Rs.20,000/- cash prize, which was utilized for undertaking various related activities in the school.

Students participated in zonal and district level tournaments with a spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie. They came out with stellar performance in carrom, kabaddi, and handball.

Exam Results: Out of the 52 children who appeared for Class X board exam, 49 cleared the exam — a 94% pass percentage. The first batch of class XII students wrote their board examination in March 2015. Out of the 32 students, 10 students passed who were pursuing courses in various city colleges. The school teachers, headmistress and director met to introspect the Class XII results and came up with measures to be undertaken to improve the same in the coming years.

The school children participated in an Art and Mural painting workshop, inter-school drama festival, and Madras-Week Celebrations. In a singing competition conducted by Radio Mirchi, two students who were selected in this competition will have the opportunity to train under the direction of music maestro A. R. Rahman.

Volunteers from various organizations conducted classes on value education and English, and engaged the students in many meaningful activities. The school was visited by officials/volunteers of donor agencies, who interacted with our students and teachers. The visitors were very impressed with the school environ-

ment and the facilities offered. They promised more support to the school in the coming years.

Social Welfare Centre (SWC):

Seventy-two children were nurtured under the able care of the Administrator and staff of the SWC. The TS international President, Mr Tim Boyd and his wife Lily visited the Centre and interacted with the children.

The Vocational Training Centre continued to provide free courses in tailoring, dress designing, drafting layout, and cutting and stitching of materials for children, and hand embroidery. Thirty-six students were enrolled in the course. Five small domestic sewing machines and 10 wooden stools were added to the Centre.

HPB Hostel: Six children were enrolled as residents in the Hostel. They were drawn from the Olcott School as well as from some of the neighbouring schools.

Unnati: In a collaboration of the Unnati Foundation, OES, and TS, more than 80 students were trained and placed in various corporations. The programme provided free soft-skills training to unemployed youth and school dropouts from marginalized sections of society. Infrastructure, boarding and lodging were provided under the aegis of the OES-TS, and the soft-skill training and placement was done by Unnati.

According to the OES Treasurer, Mr Jambunathan, the expenditure for running the units would go well over Rs. 11.5 million in the years to come.

Ms Sriprya Raghavan
Secretary, Olcott Education Society

BESANT MEMORIAL ANIMAL DISPENSARY

The Animal Dispensary will be renovated next year as the renovation could not take place last year due to various reasons such as rates quoted by the Contractors were above the sanctioned limit. An additional sanction was accorded and in due course the work is expected to start.

The Dispensary remained open on Sundays and was closed on Tuesdays. This enabled the pets to be brought on Sundays when the owners are expected to be free.

New Surgical Equipments for Birth

Control was purchased. The veterinary Surgeon, Dr P. Ramachandran, who was appointed during the month of July, started Birth Control Procedures.

There were a total of 3,116 cases attended this year, which included:

- (1) Dogs vaccinated – 180
- (2) Cats Vaccinated – 32
- (3) Wound Management – 376
- (4) Fractures – 15
- (5) Out-patient cases – 2,513

Mr S. A. Sanghram
Manager, BMAD

BESANT SCOUT CAMPING CENTRE

Twenty-one institutions and scout groups utilized services of the Besant Scout Camping Centre. Around 1,350 children benefited through camping activities in line with theosophical values.

Mr A. Victor Frank
Besant Scout Camping Centre

THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

The Theosophical Order of Service experienced a change this year when the position of International Secretary passed from Diana Dunningham Chapotin to Nancy Secrest of Washington, USA, on 1 December 2014. Diana's 20 years of service saw a marked increase in the number of TOS Groups, programs and activities around the world. Our TOS website, www.international.theoservice.org, began under Diana's watch as did our quarterly e-newsletter, *TOS In-*

Touch.*Online*, both of which remain vital means of communication. Diana administered improvements in the TOS's organisational structure and, with her team of advisors, ultimately produced a governance document for the TOS entitled *Principles of Organisation* and a *Theosophical Order of Service Handbook for TOS officers and workers*. A *Plan of Action* developed by attendees at two of the several international TOS Conferences held during her tenure, gave

further impetus to the work. All these documents were approved by the then President, Mrs Radha Burnier.

Some highlights of the year's activities at the international, national and local levels:

The TOS is currently present in 36 of the 55 countries where the TS is active. We regret that the TOS Group in Chile closed this year, but rejoice in adding TOS presence in two new countries, Belgium and Israel.

Besides the many visits made to TOS Groups by ex-officio President Tim Boyd and his wife Lily, visits were made by the TOS International Secretary in May to the Theosophical Centre in Naarden, the Netherlands, and to our new group in Brussels, Belgium, where she gave illustrated talks about the TOS and its activities worldwide and held lively discussion groups. Nancy also visited the Dutch TS headquarters in Amsterdam, the TS headquarters in Brussels and in Paris, France. While in Paris she also met with the head of the French TOS. TOS worker, Mrs Ananya Sri Ram Rajan from the United States, responded to invitations from Bhubaneswar, India, and East and Central Africa by visiting TS and TOS groups and TOS-supported schools and orphanages there. She gave talks in India, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia.

This year also saw the inauguration of a TOS International Facebook Page, www.facebook.com/tosinternational/, offering further contact with our members and friends. Our TOS Spanish

language coordinator, Mr Fernando Perez Martin, publishes two e-newsletters, regularly works with the groups in Spain and Latin America and assists the International Secretary with translations of reports and communications to and from our Spanish speaking TOS groups.

Many of our TOS groups worldwide collected money to help relieve the suffering in Nepal due to the earthquakes there in April and May.

TOS work, begun in December of 2014, was progressing well in Belgium. Under the guidance of its Correspondent, Mr Helmut Vandersmissen, TOS workers there have begun a Facebook Page, joined the International Healing Network, created informational flyers and begun their first TOS project, collecting spiritual books to be presented to several prison libraries. Our newest TOS presence in Israel is just getting started. It is headed by Correspondent, Mrs Sherry Barak-Balu.

Given the excellence of the work carried out by various groups as part of our campaign against gender discrimination and violence toward women, we have decided to extend the campaign for two years. Members in Australia, Canada, Italy, New Zealand and the USA are enthusiastic supporters of this cause.

Dr Deepa Padhi's extensive projects with the TOS Mahabarat Group in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India, have culminated in the publication of *Yes She Can*, a compilation of articles on women's issues written by a number of individuals

respected in their fields. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to further support work with disadvantaged women and girls. The service of the more than 120 groups of the TOS in India has benefited thousands through its permanent projects. For instance, the TOS in West Bengal runs four primary schools, five tailoring training centres, an orphanage, a charitable dispensary and sponsors five poor college students. The sponsorship project of Mumbai TOS is helping 525 poor students to be educated in English Medium Schools. A new TOS group was formed at Jammu and Kashmir this year through the initiative of Bro. Sanjay Potey, President, Maharashtra Region. Of special note this year: the TOS members in Sundarban, India, formed a TS lodge and built the Radha Burnier Memorial Hall where hundreds of poor village women are receiving vocational training. TOS India Director and Secretary, Bros. Birendra Bhattacharya and Dr T. K. Nair worked and travelled tirelessly throughout India giving support and inspiration to TOS regional workers.

In November 2014, the TOS Urus Branch in Oruro City, Bolivia, was awarded a medal by the country's Legislative Assembly "in recognition of its outstanding community service and commitment to the improvement of the material and spiritual conditions of humanity, including animals and nature". The TOS in Puerto Rico sells used goods of all types at a flea market. The proceeds of their sales are used to buy prostheses

or implants for children in Haiti who lost limbs as a result of the earthquake there several years ago. Children need continuing prosthetic care as they grow. Working with needy children has been the foremost focus for the TOS in Columbia for many years. They organise theosophically-oriented activities and outings for impoverished children. Clubs have been formed for both girls and boys. Some of the activities this year included a mountain hike, meditation and games to sharpen the mind. Children were also given the opportunity to participate in 'The Golden Chain' and 'The Light' ceremonies of the Round Table, a children's organisation started in 1908 with Annie Besant as its Protector. In July, the TOS in Brazil decided to form a National Council of TOS. Everyone who works for the TOS in Brazil was invited to participate at the next Summer School. The TOS local groups focus on providing help for children and youth and on raising funds for food baskets given to people in need and pre-registered institutions. Another fund-raising endeavour provided donations to an institution called Positive Life, which takes care of HIV-positive children.

The TOS in Portugal continued its focus on activities to support animals and promote vegetarianism. This year they also supported an association that creates jobs for visually impaired people. Individuals are involved in various forms of voluntary work. One man, Paulo, volunteers in the field of nature conservation. He helps to find and preserve a species

of very small fish, the Portuguese Boga, that only exist in rivers in Portugal. The membership of the TOS in France showed an encouraging increase this year. Significant funds were raised in support of a wide range of projects including a retirement home for childless widows in Chennai, India, the studies of Tibetan monks in Dharamsala and help for victims of domestic violence in France. In collaboration with the Liberal Catholic Church, the TOS also supports a primary and secondary school in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a country where the TOS is not otherwise present. The TOS in Italy supports 10 children and 51 Buddhist monks in a long-distance adoption scheme. They also sent support for the children's home in Muttom, India. Support continued for Syrian refugee camps. There are now 12 million Syrian refugees who need asylum. In Finland the TOS holds two concerts each year to raise funds for its work. This year the TOS in Finland sent support to children at the Social Welfare Centre, the HPB Boys Hostel and the Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School in Adyar. TOS Ukraine continued its repair and restoration work on HPB's birthplace and childhood home. Donations to support this work have come from all over the world with hands-on help coming from theosophists in Russia, Italy, Belgium and Hungary.

The knitting of Teddy bears continues as a major activity of the TOS in the United Kingdom. The 'teddies' are sent

to children in distressed areas. Donations were made by the TOS in the UK this year to more than 27 organisations including Nepali earthquake relief, the Round Table, the TOS in Kenya for relief to drought victims, the Heart Babies Project of the TOS youth in Tanzania and five charities in Adyar. Mrs Adrienne Nagyiday took over from Csilla Kiss as President of the TOS in Hungary in April. The TOS in Hungary is a legally independent organisation, as required by Hungarian law, which elects its own officers. Under Csilla's watch, the Hungarian TOS began an animal healing network that works in cooperation with the TOS's animal healing network in the United States. Adrienne organised a seven day summer camp for gypsy children in a small village.

The TOS in New Zealand and the TOS in Canada are two groups that sponsor individual students at the Golden Link College (GLC). The TOS in New Zealand funds their GLC student's support through the Geoffrey Hodson Memorial Fund set up for this purpose. The interest from this investment will provide tuition and fees for the entire span of the child's school years.

The TOS in Tanzania boasts a happy and healthy Youth Group. Among other things, the young people support the Lions Club's "Heart Babies" project, which gives medical assistance to babies born with heart defects. TOS Tanzania also supports the Chanika Orphanage, near Dar es Salaam, which houses 60 children. New dormitories have recently

been built with indoor toilets and showers.

If balance is the key to Spiritual growth, the theosophical triad of study, meditation and service exemplifies it. Study utilizes our ability to reason and think logically. Meditation helps us to tap

into our Higher Selves. Service then is the fulcrum — the point of balance. Service is that part of the triad, which allows us to demonstrate the divine in the world.

Mrs Nancy Secrest
International Secretary, TOS

**REPORTS OF WORK
IN
NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES
LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR**

(Where necessary, reports have been translated, edited or condensed)

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

Founded 1947, membership 135. **The East and Central African Section** is comprised of four countries (referred to by them as Regions of the Section): Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia (at present Uganda Region falls administratively under the Kenya Region). The Section has 5 Lodges, two of them in Zambia. The 47th Convention of the Section was held in April 2015, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Mrs Ananya S. Rajan was the Convention Guest Speaker and gave subsequent lecture tours in Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Kitwe, Mufulira and Kampala. She gave talks, radio interviews, and conducted seminars. Mr Narendra M. Shah was elected as the new General Secretary of the Section for a two-year term at this Convention, and the following were elected as the Assistant General Secretaries for the three Regions: Mr Mitesh H. Doshi — Kenya Region, Mr Harsukh Dubal — Tanzania Region, and Mr Jayu Sampat — Zambia Region. Nairobi Lodge in Kenya held regular fortnightly meetings in English and weekly meetings in Gujarati. It has a book

stall with a rich collection of titles for sale. Dar-es-Salaam Lodge in Tanzania held 10 study meetings, the Ladies' Meeting bi-weekly, and also regular healing meetings and the Bharat Samaj Puja. Nile Lodge in Uganda held 24 study meetings during the year. Kitwe and Mufulira Lodges in Zambia held approximately 50 study meetings each. All the Lodges celebrated their foundation day and international theosophical days. Dar-es-Salaam, Nairobi, and Nile Lodges were involved in various TOS (Theosophical Order of Service) activities. There were contributions for babies' heart treatment in India, distribution of toys to orphans, food and blankets to the needy, food and stationery to a school for mentally challenged students, children's parties, donation of university fees for needy students, and medical and funeral expenses for needy person, donation of food and used clothing to the Missionaries of the Poor, and sponsoring disabled female students.

Mr Narendra M. Shah
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTH

Founded 1909, membership 174. **The South African Section** activities were geared towards spiritual growth of

members conducted at the Lodge level, which included public meetings, study groups, and yoga classes on regular

basis. The Johannesburg Lodge has dispatched monthly theosophical articles through e-mail to all members of the Section. It has also revitalized its library, which now has 8,800 titles on its shelves.

The magazine, *South African Theosophist*, was published in electronic form to reduce distribution costs.

Mr Jack Hartmann
General Secretary

AFRICA, WEST

Founded 1956, membership 238. The **West African Section** had its Annual Convention in September in Koforidua, the capital of the Eastern Region in Ghana, not in the Headquarters at Accra, due to serious flooding that followed the seasonal rainfall. The theme was 'Theosophy in a Changing World and the Cycle of Life'. An open forum with questions and answers was held, and among speakers of various topics under

the theme, was invited as the guest speaker a member of the Hare Krishna group, who spoke on 'The challenges of Wisdom'. The member in whose home the Convention was held, the Secretary of the Lodge in Koforidua, passed away six weeks thereafter. He had spoken on 'Theosophy in Daily Life' at the Convention and had been an indefatigable dedicated member.

Mr John O. Boakye
General Secretary

ARGENTINA AND PARAGUAY

Founded 1920, membership 340. The **Argentinian Section** had their activities in the Theosophical Centre in San Rafael, Mendoza. It held its 51st Summer School in January, in which Dr Ravi Ravindra, from Canada, conducted a seminar with two themes: 'The Yoga of Christ' (4 classes) with special attention to the teachings of Christ in the Gospel of St. John, and 'The Yoga of Krishna' (6 classes) with investigation of the teachings of Krishna in the Bhagavadgita. The National Congress of the Theosophical Society in Argentina was held also in January with the theme 'The Golden Stairs and Our Task'. In the Congress, the national

Lodges gave morning presentations and afternoon group discussions on the mornings' topics. The Winter School was held in July with the theme 'The Value of Silence'. The Section has been working on different initiatives oriented to further spread Theosophy to the public. It participated in two book fairs where a good amount of flyers were distributed and books sold. The maintenance of the website has been kept up with data about all the national activities, videos about different conferences, pictures, magazines and other theosophical publications.

Mr Jorge Carlos Garcia
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

Founded 1895, membership 863. The **Australian Section** moved the National Headquarters in November 2014 to its new location in Surry Hills, on the fringe of the Sidney CBD. Members visit quite regularly and researchers have gravitated back since the Campbell Theosophical Research Library was reopened. An afternoon tea was held in the first few months of 2015 to welcome Blavatsky Lodge Committee members to the new premises. The Section has also completed the new-look of its website and its placement online. The *Union Index of Theosophical Periodicals, Links to Theosophical Texts Online* and the Melbourne Lodge meetings page being the most visited web pages. The Annual Convention was held in Adelaide having as the keynote speakers Dr Victor Gostin, an Associate Professor, and Dr Olga Gostin, both long-time members of the TS and specialists in their fields of earth sciences and anthropology respectively. The theme was 'Science, Society and Soul Wisdom'. The Education and Training Committee sent a new module for the Resources Package, 'Understanding the Psychic World', to all Lodges/Branches and Groups. The General Secretary visited nearly all the centres around the Section during the year. The Section has several national speakers. International lecturer was Mr Vicente Hao Chin Jr., President of the Golden Link School in the Philippines, who is also a previous President of the Indo-Pacific Federation and a former National President of the

TS in the Philippines, who undertook a highly successful tour of this Section. This included a very popular Self-Transformation seminar at the Canyonleigh Centre which was quickly booked out. National events took place in four centres. In Springbrook Centre was held a well-attended event on the *Vivekachudāmani* of Sri Shankaracharya, and School of Theosophy under the theme 'Discovering Buddhist Wisdom: Philosophy and Practice'. The Canyonleigh Centre held the following events: The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett presented by a former President, Mr Beverley Champion, a one-day event 'The Flood and the Ark: Myth or Fact?', and a two-day event on 'The Cosmic Process — our place in the world, in and outside of time'. Launceston Centre held another annual seminar with the theme 'Life and Death in the Light of Theosophy'.

The electronic media has been explored in the Facebook page with advertisement of the coming events as well as inspiring quotes and links to the International President's video blogs. An e-bulletin has also been used to announce events. The National Headquarters publicizes an Online Public Access Catalogue as a way to give public access to the holdings of TS libraries throughout Australia. The Lodges and groups reported a number of gatherings with guest speakers as well as Seminars on a great variety of themes during the year. An Annual transfer of funds from the Australian Section to support wages

at Adyar for the next two years was continued. The TOS (Theosophical Order of Service) was able to donate \$19,050 to its various projects, including three National Projects, i.e., Literacy Home-schools and financing thirty-one scholarships in Pakistan, the Animal Dispensary at Adyar and a Vocational

Training Project for women in Kenya. TOS groups also provided funding for the Golden Link College in the Philippines, the Olcott Memorial School at Adyar, and the Mobility Project at Assam, India.

Mrs Linda Oliveira
General Secretary

BELGIUM

Founded 1911, membership 92. The **Belgian Section** increased its activities and welcomed two international lecturers. Mrs Nancy Secrest from Theosophical Order of Service USA rekindled the work of the TOS in Belgium. The International Vice-President, Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, from Adyar gave two much-appreciated lectures in the Brussels Headquarters. Most of the theosophical activities took place in the north of the country, its Dutch speaking part, and in Brussels Headquarters. Preparations are made for renewed activity in the French-speaking south of the country. Several Belgian members attended Theosophical activities abroad (Dutch day in Naarden, the Netherlands, Estonia, United King-

dom, and France). Following the visit of Mrs Nancy Secrest, various initiatives were undertaken by TOS in Belgium: donation for earthquake relief in Nepal, start-up of Teddies for tragedies knitting action, and start-up of healing meditation groups in Antwerp and Brussels. The GS mentions that the Belgian TS is in a transition from the Old to the New. Sections and Lodges need to be aware of their public function: we are not just there for ourselves, but for the communities in which we are active, and to make possible the transmission of theosophical teachings from one generation to the next.

Mrs Sabine Van Osta
General Secretary

BRAZIL

Founded 1920, membership 757. The **Brazilian Section** is the largest and most active Section in Latin America. During the year one Lodge was dissolved: 'Bhagavad Gotama' in Belo Horizonte-MG. Four new groups were formed: "Maceió" in Maceió-AL; "Palmas" in Palmas-TO; "Padre Cícero" in Juazeiro

do Norte-CE; and "Timbó" in Timbó-SC. Two groups were dissolved: "Acordar" in RibeirãoPreto-SP, and "Mahatma Ghandi" from Guarulhos-SP. The numerous Lodges and Study groups held regular meetings and seminars. National gatherings included the 34th Summer School, with an attendance of 150 from

16 states, in the city of Barra de Sao Miguel-AL. There were lectures, panels, and study groups about the themes from the book *A Study in Consciousness* by Annie Besant. The 19th International Theosophical School was held with Mrs Linda Oliveira, President of TS in Australia, and Mr Pedro Oliveira, former International Secretary of the TS, as guest speakers, on the theme 'The Transforming Path: In the search for the Diamond', with about 170 participants. The Raja Foundation Centre-SP held various activities including a 4-day retreat with lectures on 'Universal Compassion — The Practice of Brotherhood'. The Pitágoras Institute-SP conducted 'An Introductory Course on Theosophical Thought'. The Section's bimonthly magazine *Sophia* has reached its 13th anniversary and published its 57th issue of 5,500 copies per edition. The quarterly

Theosophia publishes 1,500 copies. Internet is utilized widely and the TV channel 'Brazilian TS' on YouTube was very actively visited. The Brazilian Theosophical Publishing House issued three books during the period under report. The TOS has been active in several states, and took part in every national event with presentations and bazaars. In the Northeast, the TOS held a seminar with the theme 'Reflections and Paths to Understand and Implement a Holistic Education', another Seminar took place under the Theme 'Unity of Life'. In Rio de Janeiro the TOS raised food baskets for needy people and more than one hundred books were donated for a public library. The quarterly journal *ST News* was distributed to all members along with the TOS bulletin.

Mr Marcos L. B. de Resende
General Secretary

CUBA

Founded 1905, membership 558. The **Cuban Section** is the second largest in Latin America. The two-day Annual Convention was celebrated in January with the Theme 'Devotion'. The Lodges in Havana organized a two-day Summer School on the 'Gayatri Mantra' for more than 30 members. Some of the books studied by the Lodges were Annie Besant's *Thought Power, its Control and Culture*, and *A Study in Consciousness*; Besant's

and Leadbeater's *Talks on the Path of Occultism*; *The Yoga in the Bhagavad Gita*, *Shiva Sutras*, and I.K. Taimni's *Man, God and the Universe*, and many others. All Lodges of the Cuban Section celebrated the Founders Day, Adyar Day, and White Lotus Day. The quarterly e-magazine, *Revista Teosófica Cubana*, continued to be published.

Ms Barbara A. Fariñas Piña
General Secretary

ENGLAND

Founded 1888, membership 1,068. The **English Section**, the largest in Europe, has a new National President, Mrs Jenny Baker, since April 2014. She is grateful to Mr Colin Price for his 10 years of hard work and dedication to the Society in the post. The Summer School was held near Birmingham, with the International President, Mr Tim Boyd, as the chief guest speaker. The School was attended by more than one hundred people. The Diploma Course is in its fifth year and continues to attract members who wish to study theosophical teachings

in depth. The Dhyana Centre met at Headquarters and continued to attract a large number of members. The process of the TSE becoming a charity is ongoing. By becoming a charity the Section will secure its assets for the future of Theosophy in England. Mrs Baker was elected onto the Council of the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden in Holland. She hopes that the Section will forge closer relationships with our European cousins in the future.

Mrs Jenny Baker
General Secretary

FINLAND

Founded 1907, membership 402. Out of 23 Lodges, two are in Estonia. The Annual Convention of the **Finnish Section** was held at the Helsinki Headquarters in March. Mrs Mirva Jaatinen was elected as the new General Secretary, succeeding Ms Marja Artamaa, the current International Secretary. The Summer School took place in June at the Kreivilä Theosophical Centre, with the theme 'Cosmic laws and principles according to *The Secret Doctrine*'. Mr Ingo de Jong from Sweden was the guest speaker. The main theosophical event of the year was the International President Mr Tim Boyd's visit to the Section with his family. He gave a lecture on 'The Imprint of Theosophy' and had a meeting with young participants at Kreivilä during the seminar of the Theosophical co-operation group. His public lecture in Helsinki

was 'The Solution to All Problems' and he had members meetings in the Headquarters at Helsinki, and in Tallinn, Estonia. Throughout the year, except summer months, the Headquarters in Helsinki organized public lectures every Sunday. Regular Lodge studies, seminars, courses and public lectures (in 17 towns), were held around the country. The TS in Finland participated in two big fairs in Southern Finland giving talks, selling books and being available for questions. The Lodges in Northern Finland organized three fairs called 'Days of Light' with several theosophical lectures during the 2-day programmes. 'The Key of Knowledge' Day, with theosophical programmes, was held in Mid- and East-Finland. In cooperation with other theosophical organizations in Finland, two seminars were arranged,

one in Helsinki and the other in Kreivilä, with the topic 'Every step is peace'. A Finnish translation of H. P. Blavatsky's *The Secret Doctrine III* was published. This is the so-called third part of

The Secret Doctrine, which Annie Besant collected from HPB's papers after her death.

Mrs Mirva Jaatinen
General Secretary

FRANCE

Founded 1899, membership 347. The Headquarters of the **French Section** in Paris continued to hold monthly branch meetings and free courses three times per month, video projections of J. Krishnamurti quarterly, and fortnightly public lectures. In the summer International President, Mr Tim Boyd and International Vice-President, Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, paid separate visits to the Headquarters. During his visit, Mr Boyd had a questions & answers (Q & A) session with the volunteer workers of the TS in France. The Vice-President's visit was also very fruitful with private talks on the general work and the Adyar estate. At the National Convention in June, Mrs Jeannine (Nano) Leguay was elected General Secretary from October 2015. The guest of honour, Mr Pascal Rousseau, professor of art history at the University of Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne,

delivered a public lecture on 'Spirituality and Modern Art: Thought Forms in Abstract Art'. The Lodges in the province organized lectures and meetings. A group in Toulouse received a Lodge Charter and became Hilarion Branch. The magazine *Le Lotus Bleu*, founded by HPB, continued to be published ten times a year. Editions Adyar continued publishing books and running the bookshop, which is open two afternoons per week and during the programmes. The publishing house brought out the book by Dr Muriel Pecastaing-Boissiere on Annie Besant's life, titled *Annie Besant (1847–1933): la lutte et la quête* (the struggle and the quest). The Library continued to serve members, sympathizers, and the public, upon request and by appointment. The Healing Group has been meeting weekly for many years.

Ms Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu
General Secretary

GERMANY

Founded 1902, membership 119. The **German Section** had their Southern Meeting in October 2014 with talks on healing from different viewpoints, and Mr Jan-Jelle Keppler as the guest speaker. The Northern Meeting was place in the spring in Barendorf. The Annual Sum-

mer School was held in Kassel with the theme 'Bearers of Wisdom and their Teachings'. The special guest was Prof. Dr Andreas de Bruin from the University of Munich. He spoke about 'Maitreya', 'Transmissions' meditation, 'Musicosophia' by George Balan, and so on. The Southern

Meeting of 2015 was held in September (usually in October) in Regensburg, with Mr Chaganti V. K. Maithreya as the visiting speaker. The theme was 'Dharma, Karma, and Yoga'. Many members and guests came to listen to his five talks. He gave a public talk also in Munich on 'Ancient Wisdom and Modern Science'.

Lodges and study groups continue meeting on a regular basis. Two healing groups also meet regularly. The editorial committee published the magazine *Adyar* three times a year with interesting and informative articles.

Mrs Manuela Kaulich
General Secretary

GREECE

Founded 1928, membership 187. The **Greek Section** celebrated Foundation Day, White Lotus Day, and Adyar Day. Its Lodges met regularly, working on the Objects of the Theosophical Society. The magazine *Ilisos* is being printed every three months with about 500 subscribers and is given free to all members. *The Secret Doctrine*, v. III, and *Occultism*, Book B, by H. P. Blavatsky were pub-

lished. Out of 11 Lodges, 'Apollon' in Athens and 'Kaviros' in Alexandroupolis are temporarily inactive. Study group 'Prokris' in the island of Cephalonia is working well, and 'Radamanthis' and 'Minos' Lodges in the island of Crete are working very well.

Mr Antonios Papandreu
General Secretary

ICELAND

Founded 1921, membership 259. The **Icelandic Section** held their Summer School in Hveragerdi on the theme 'The Kingdom — symbol of mind and body: methods of the adventures to approach our own minds and bodies', with the participation of nine Norwegian theosophists, one of whom gave a talk. There were 22 Friday lecture meetings held in the evenings, and 23 Saturday meetings of half an hour meditation, break, and then discussion on the practice of meditation or video with discussion. The attendance is usually 40 to 60 persons. The theosophical Journal *Gangleri* has been published bi-annually since 1926, each issue

consisting of 96 pages, with over 700 subscribers. This year it was decided to have one issue every year consisting of 160 pages. The newsletter *Mundilfari* was published three times a year. The website is in both Icelandic and English. There are now seven active Lodges in Reykjavik, one in Akureyri and one in Kópavogur. The consequences of the financial crash in Iceland in 2008 has been having more serious effects on many people who find it hard to make ends meet. This has had a serious effect on the membership. Still meetings are well attended.

Mr Halldór Haraldsson
General Secretary

INDIA

Founded 1891, membership 11,327. The **Indian Section** remains the largest section of the TS. Its 16 Federations were active throughout the year. The 123rd Indian Section Convention was held during the International Convention at Adyar in December 2014, and was inaugurated by the International President, Mr Tim Boyd. The 92nd South India Conference was held during the Easter holiday, with 130 participants and its theme was based on HPB's book *The Voice of the Silence*. The International President inaugurated the Conference, which had altogether 11 speakers. Mr S. Sundaram, General Secretary of the Section, welcomed the gathering, and Dr Satapathy, the Vice-President, gave the concluding address.

At the Headquarters of the Section in Varanasi several events were held. The North India Study Camp was held during October 2014 with delegates from different Federations. The study was on the late international President Mrs Radha Burnier's contributions and approach to Theosophy, directed by Mr P. K. Jayaswal, National Lecturer. A two-day seminar on 'Education in the Light of Theosophy and Present-Day Challenges' was organized in March 2015. It was structured on Dr Annie Besant's Adyar Pamphlet no. 16, *Education in the Light of Theosophy*. Several speakers from different institutions and students presented their views on the seminar. A three-day study camp was also held in March in Varanasi by Prof. R. C. Tampi,

based on Ms Joy Mills' *The Human Journey — Quest for Self-Transformation*. Uttar Pradesh and M.P./Rajasthan Federations jointly organized a study camp in April 2015 under the auspices of Gwalior Lodge. The book studied was *The Ageless Wisdom of Life* by Clara M. Codd.

The International President, Mr Tim Boyd, visited the Indian Section in several places. His visit to the Indian Section Headquarters in Varanasi in October 2014 coincided with the North India study Camp, in which he delivered a public lecture 'The Ever Present Future'. He then visited West Bengal with his wife Mrs Lily Boyd, and attended the function of Siddharta TOS Group at Susm Mission, Chinar Park, where more than 1,000 disciples of the Buddhist Society attended his talk. Following that in October, Besant Lodge organized a public meeting at Sauderkhali where Mr Tim Boyd was the Guest Speaker highlighting the basic objectives of the Theosophical Society. In June Mr Tim Boyd, along with Smt Lily Boyd, visited the Bengaluru City Lodge for a get-together and gave an inspiring talk. About 140 members from different Lodges of Karnataka Federation participated in the programme. The 106th Annual Conference of Karnataka Theosophical Federation (KTF) was held in June, 2015 at Gowribidanur. Mr Tim Boyd inaugurated the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Gowribidanur Theosophical Lodge on 27 June and also inaugurated the 106th

Annual Conference of the Federation in June. His inaugural address was on the theme of the conference 'Live to benefit Mankind'.

In May the Section organized four events at the Himalayan Study Centre in Bhowali: a study camp on Clara Codd's *The Way of the Disciple*, directed by Mr Jayaswal; a Workers' Training Camp; a camp for the Uttarakhand Region; and a study camp on *At the Feet of the Master*, organized by the Marathi Theosophical Federation and conducted by Prof. C. A. Shinde, National Lecturer. A study camp on 'Virtues' was organized in Bhowali in October 2014 by the Karnataka Federation and study of *The Secret Doctrine* was directed by its President, Mr B. V. Thippeswamy in April. A special session of the School of the Wisdom was organized by the International Headquarters this year for the first time in Bhowali in September, attended by participants from the USA, Brazil, Spain, Australia, and India, and was based on Shirley Nicholson's *Ancient Wisdom — Modern Insight*. Dr Satapathy inaugurated the course and Prof. Tampi directed it.

Dr Satapathy visited Bhubaneswar during the East Zone Theosophical Conference and delivered a talk on *Theosophy and Altruism*. He also addressed various theosophical gatherings during his visits to the Tamil, Assam, and Delhi Theosophical Federations, and conducted study camps in Guwahati and Delhi.

The Theosophical Order of Service, Assam Region, held meetings in March 2015 at Guneswari Medhi Vidyapith (High School), Panjabri, Guwahati. Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy, Vice-President of the Theosophical Society and Mrs Kusum Satapathy, former International Secretary of the TS, graced the function as the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. The West Zone Conference of the Theosophical Order of Service was held at Himmatnagar in June 2015. The Section's journal, *The Indian Theosophist*, was published every month with an average monthly circulation of 3,200. A special number of the journal on Dr Radha Burnier was brought out in November 2014.

Mr S. Sundaram
General Secretary

INDONESIA

Founded 1912, membership 187. The **Indonesian Section** elected a new General Secretary, Mr Widyatmoko, following Mr Herry Ispoermo, who passed away in early 2014. Statistics were received

at Adyar, but without a written report of the activities.

Mr Widyatmoko
General Secretary

ITALY

Founded 1902, membership 950. The **Italian Section**, with its 32 groups and 17 centres, carried out both "members only" and public conferences. An important role is covered by the website, which was constantly updated. The website hosts a "members-only" section, in addition to availability of information to all who log in to the website. One section in the website contains videos of theosophical conferences taken during Congresses and Seminars. The Section published the monthly-issued review *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* with 1,300 printed copies and over 1,000 subscriptions. The monthly newsletter was emailed to over 3,000 people. The Section entered into an agreement with the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, to purchase the rights of numerous titles in the catalogue to release books in English. The website of the publishing house, *Edizione Teosofiche Italiane*, presents the theosophical books to the public, both in Italian and in English. A seminar was organized by the Section with the Swiss Theosophical Society in the theosophical centre of Ascona in March 2015. The subject was 'Science

and Spirituality: from the variety of forms to the Unity of life'. The 101st National Congress took place in Creazzo, Vicenza, in June, with the subject 'Nutrition and the Sacredness of Life'. The International President, Mr Tim Boyd, was present and delivered lectures also in Udine, Milan and Vicenza. The conference with Tim Boyd in Trieste was extremely appreciated by all Italian attendees and those of the Slovenian members. Tim Boyd also took part in a convention on vegetarianism at the Circolo della Stampa in Milan. Mr José Foglia also attended the National Congress and delivered a lecture on 'Neuroplasticity, epigenetics, and nutrition'. He also held seminars in two cities, on the connection between meditation and brain activity. In September a seminar on 'Theosophy and Sufism' was held in Grado. The activities in cooperation with the Italian Theosophical Order of Service have been further developed during the year, with support to charity initiatives in Italy, India, Pakistan, Burma, Kenya, Tanzania, Syria and Philippines.

Mr Antonio Girardi
General Secretary

MEXICO

Founded 1919, membership 155. The **Mexican Section** began the year with a new president, Mr Enrique Sanchez Arrieta, who visited all the 12 Lodges and 5 study groups across the country and gave a conference about the first Object

of the Society, with the intent to develop the spirit of working together among all the members. The Section website has a new link with a bookstore online where enquirers can buy some books and receive other books free of charge. This

online link also helps to form new groups in new places. The traditional theosophical days, and the 97th Anniversary of the TS in Mexico were celebrated. The Section participated in the Seminar of the Caribbean Basin, which had the theme 'The Illumined Mind' suggested by Mr Tim

Boyd. Mrs Lissette Arroyo represented the Mexican Section and gave a lecture on 'The Wisdom that transforms us'. During the year she also gave nine courses on Theosophy at the national Headquarters.

Mr Enrique Sanchez Arrieta
General Secretary

THE NETHERLANDS

Founded 1896, membership 330. The **Dutch Section** was busy with remodeling their office, library, and bookshop into one attractive Information Centre, led by the General Secretary. The Section has a close and brotherly cooperation with the International Theosophical Center (ITC) Naarden, the 'European Home' of the TS. The Section held a Spring weekend with Ineke Vrolijk with the theme 'One cannot tread the Path before one has become the Path oneself'. In May Prof. P. Krishna gave a weekend seminar on 'A revolution in education'. In June Michael Gomes directed a seminar on 'HPB's Esoteric Instructions'. An interactive day, called

'The Dutch Day' and a youth gathering with the International President, Mr Tim Boyd, took place in August. *Theosofia*, the magazine of the Section, was published quarterly, also on the internet. Two groups in the Headquarters in Amsterdam are studying the *Secret Doctrine* and the *Mahatma Letters*. Lodges and centers are active in many cities with different activities, including talks on the Upanishads, the *Bhagavadgita*, 'The Danger of Spiritism', *The Voice of the Silence*, 'Sound and Colour', and others. The Section also offers study talks of J. Krishnamurti videos.

Mr Wim Leys
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

Founded 1896, membership 676. The **New Zealand Section** held its National Convention in Napier in January with guest speakers Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., from the Philippines, and Mr Barry Bowden from Australia on the theme 'The Way Forward for Humanity: Achieving Universal Brotherhood'. 'The Process of Self-Transformation' seminar was also held in Napier, facilitated by Mr Hao Chin and other New Zealand facilitators.

Around 30 people attended this 3-day event. The School of Theosophy was held for four days at the HPB Lodge in Auckland with guest Mrs Dorothy Bell from Australia, on 'Theosophical World View — Window of a New Mind'. The three Regional groups held various gatherings. The Central Region held two events: a weekend seminar held at Palmerston North on 'Theosophy Foundations' facilitated by the National

President, Mr John Vorstermans, and an event held at Wellington entitled 'The Wisdom of Patanjali's Yoga Sutras', a study and meditation retreat facilitated by Dr Vera Zdarsky. Several Branches started or continued with meditation, yoga, and tai-chi sessions, some of them including a form of healing service. Some Branches have taken the opportunity to go into more explorative depth in studying aspects of Theosophy

in alignment with the declared objects. This is something that is important if we are to really gain a depth of understanding in Theosophy. The Section elected a Governance Board to replace the National Council. The Governance Board held its first meeting in October 2015. *TheoSophia*, their magazine, continued to be popular around the world.

Mr John Vorstermans
General Secretary

THE PHILIPPINES

Founded 1933, membership 269. The **Philippine Section** participated in the International Convention at Adyar through its delegate, former General Secretary, Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., who gave a Convention talk and facilitated the two-day strategic planning meeting which was held right after the Convention. At the national front, Self-Transformation Seminars (STS) and workshops by Mr Hao Chin were held and well received in the Mindanao State University, at the Section Headquarters in Quezon City, and at various private companies. The

Regional Federation Convention was held in Davao del Sur with the theme 'The Quest for Inner Peace, Happiness, and Social Harmony'. Many other lectures and study programmes were held throughout the country during the year, mostly by Mr Hao Chin. Two new Lodges received their Charters during the year, 'Golden Link' and 'Logos'. Enrollment in five TS schools during the school year reached landmark gains, with a total of 895 students.

Dr Roselmo Z. Doval-Santos
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

Founded 1921, membership 123. The **Portuguese Section**, along with the celebration of the traditional commemorative days integrated in the history of the TS, a set of public sessions were held at Lisbon with different formats, from public talks to panels and discussion groups. The spirit of questioning and the spontaneous contribution of the partici-

pants were some of the strategies to encourage the dialogue and the search towards openness and dynamism. Such activities were coordinated by different members, and some times by invitees. Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Chairman of the European Federation of the TS, gave 3 public talks on 'The Science of Theosophy'. Ms Maria Jose Barrios, from the

Spanish Section, delivered a public talk at Lisbon and Oporto on 'Reflections on the Path'. Lodges have developed their activities in a much decentralised way —

in Lisbon, Porto, and Évora; one Study Group is very actively working in Azores.

Mr Carlos Guerra
General Secretary

SPAIN

Founded 1921, membership 327, the **Spanish Section** held a 4-day Silent Retreat in Girona on Annie Besant's Universal Prayer, 'O, Hidden Life...', directed by Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, with 44 attendees. She also conducted a 3-day Seminar in Alicante on 'Self-Realization', attended by 40 people. At Easter the Section held the 37th 'Iberian Days' programme with 48 attending, on the theme 'Unity of Life'. Dr José Foglia, from Uruguay, visited Arjuna Lodge and gave a public lecture on 'Meditation vs

Stress', which was appreciated by many. The 7-day Summer School, with 107 participants, was on 'Karma, Dharma, Nirvana, and Mindfulness', and the guest speaker was Mr Chaganti V. K. Maithreya, from India. A Seminar on the Chakras was organized in Malaga, conducted by Mr José Tarragó, the Vice-President of the Section. A new Lodge in Zaragoza was formed. Four books were republished.

Mrs Angels Torra
General Secretary

SWEDEN

Founded 1895, membership 162. The Lodges and study groups of the **Swedish Section** had lectures and study on various topics, like 'Meditation', 'Non-duality', 'The Secret Doctrine', and 'Theosophy — An Introductory Study Course'. Two mini-schools were held in Stockholm. The Summer School, with the theme 'To Live Theosophy', was held in Leksand. The guest speaker was the International

Secretary, Ms Marja Artamaa, who gave three lectures. Mr Pertti Spets and Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund contributed with lectures on the theme. The Section translated and printed John Algeo's *Theosophy — An Introductory Study Course*. The Theosophical Order of Service helped children at an orphanage in Latvia.

Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund
General Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Founded 1886, membership 3,357. The **American Section** (TSA) reports that under their Library Director, Marina Maestas, the Henry S. Olcott Memorial Library collection can now be accessed

nationally through a cooperative inter-library loan arrangement, and often internationally. The TSA public programming operates seven days a week on a range of theosophical subjects

with growing attendance. During the year, the IT/AV department increased the number of live webcasts of the Thursday night lecture series. The goal of the IT department head, Mr Chris Bolger, was realized: almost every talk was streamed live on the Internet. The online attendance was equal to or greater than the number of people physically attending the talk, and some were tuning in from other countries. TS Wiki — a Wikipedia-style reference on Theosophy and the TS, is approaching 4 million visitors to the site, which has now migrated to a new domain: <www.theosophy.wiki>. For the past four years there has been increasing emphasis on the development of online classes (Webinars). A growing body of Internet resources are being made available to the theosophical world through the TSA website, <www.theosophical.org>. After almost 50 years in operation, publication of Quest Books was to be ending at the close of the year. The TSA Board of directors decided that substantial further investment of TSA resources in Quest Books would not be financially responsible. However, this creates new possibilities in the area of online activities. The TSA will continue to publish Theosophical books through their Theosophical Publishing House, which was able also to convert approximately 180 titles for use in three e-book formats. The Audio-Video (AV) Department continued with the ongoing live webcasting, recording, editing, mastering, archiving, and manufacture of sales orders of programs being developed at Olcott, in both video and/or audio

formats. Most of the titles may be purchased at <www.questbooks.com>.

To support the local groups, the National Secretary, Mr David Bruce, made arrangements to send national speakers around the country. During the year 20 speakers gave over 60 presentations, most of which were well attended and enthusiastically received. Courses for the National Lodge, now in its 18th year of existence, were also selected and edited by Mr Bruce. The Prison Program remains very active and continues to bring Theosophical teachings to men and women who are incarcerated. The number of prisoners taking correspondence courses remains steady at fifty to fifty-five, and all participants are screened by the National Secretary before being assigned to a mentor. The Public Programs Department scheduled, promoted, and presented the programs that were offered by the Theosophical Society throughout the year. Thursday night lectures were webcasted and reached a large national and international audience. A very successful event in July 2014, with over 400 people attending, was Dr Eben Alexander's lecture 'A Neurosurgeon's Journey through the Afterlife'. The Section had a great number of classes and groups that met regularly and offered something for everyone. These included the Meditation Group, Yoga classes, Tai Chi classes, Theosophical Study Group, a Young Theosophists group, and, for children, Bedtime Stories and The Order of the Round Table.

Mr Tim Boyd
General Secretary

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

AMERICA, CENTRAL

Founded 1929, membership 13. The Regional Association of Central America comprises two countries: Nicaragua and El Salvador. In Nicaragua, Blavatsky Lodge meets in Managua, the capital city, and in El Salvador, Teotl Lodge meets in San Salvador. Directed study on *The Voice of the Silence* and *The Secret Doctrine* were conducted with handouts of information material for each participant. The History of Buddhism, Seven Principles

to Achieve Happiness, and the History of Islam were part of the directed study. The Region had public lectures and video conferences with a total of thirteen topics, among them Vegetarianism, Brotherhood of all that lives, Dharma, Four Laws of Buddhism, The Hermetic Laws of the Kybalion, The Teachings of the Glorious Buddha, Inner World and Outer World.

Mrs Beatriz Elisena Martínez Pozas
Organizing Secretary

AUSTRIA

Founded 1912, membership 49. The Region has three active Lodges, which offered weekly lectures throughout the study year, based on classical theosophical teachings and related subjects. Lectures were regularly placed on the TS Austria website. Members received the magazine *Adyar* published by the German TS three times a year. In March 2015 the

annual meeting was held at the facilities of the Linz Lodge. At this meeting the election of the Executive Committee was on the agenda. As a result Mr Albert Schichl was re-elected as Organizing Secretary and Dr Helmuth Ecker as Deputy and speaker of the Association.

Mr Albert Schichl
Organizing Secretary

CANADA

Founded 1924, membership 134. The Association got the status of non-profit organization in October 2014, and started the process of reviewing and re-writing their bylaws. The Region has four Lodges and two Study Centers, all of them were active with meetings and studies on *The Voice of the Silence*, *The Divine Plan*,

Yama Niyama, At the Feat of the Master, Man and his Bodies, The Science of Yoga, Self-Culture, The Secret Doctrine, and others. In April 2015 Mrs Maryse DeCoste and Mr Robert Beland were elected for a three years term, respectively, as Organizing Secretary and Vice-Chairman of the Region. After serving for six years both

as National Treasurer and National Secretary, Mrs Elaine Pederzolli handed over to Mrs Jeanne-Louise the National Secretary's task. Summer School was hosted by Les Montagnes Bleues Lodge in Maggog, in the Province of Quebec, with Robert Beland as the main speaker.

The topic was 'Self-transformation at the Service of the Soul'. The event was successful and well attended. A new Lodge named Satya had its first official meeting on September 14, in Montreal.

Mrs Maryse DeCoste
Organizing Secretary

CHILE

Founded 1920, membership 56. The Annual Convention was held in March, under the motto 'The Truth: Essence of our Being'. To make Theosophy known they had radio online for public lectures, published *The Chilean Theosophical Magazine* distributed pamphlets on subways and in the internet, and e-published the *Theosophical Brochure*, sent to Spanish-speaking countries monthly. The main subjects of study in the Lodges were *The Way of Service*, *Evolution of Consciousness*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *Self-Culture*, *Talks on the Path of Occultism*, *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*, *The Science of Yoga*, and *Theosophy Explained in Questions and Answers*. The main topics of the public lectures were Service, Self-knowledge,

Introduction to Yoga, No Religion Higher than Truth, Truth and Ethics, among others. The Education department arranged courses and workshops with very good member-participation. Mrs Maria Rosa Martinez from Argentina visited the region and lectured on the theme 'Meditation and its practical application'. Mr Ernesto Garcia, also from Argentina, conducted a workshop for members on 'The work of the TS and its members'. Some members attended the Summer and Winter Schools in San Rafael, Argentina. The translations team is working on four books and collaborative translations of *The Theosophist* in Spanish. The Library is open every Saturday.

Mr Cesar A. Ortega Ortiz
Organizing Secretary

IRELAND

Founded 1919, membership 72. The All Ireland Convention was held in Dublin with Diana Dunningham Chapotin as the guest speaker. The theme was 'Serving with the Eyes of the Spirit, An Infinity Within to Give'. The Organizing Secretary had been in touch with members through a newsletter and *Study Notes* bi-monthly.

The largest and main group completed the studies on *The Voice of the Silence* and started studying *The Bhagavadgita*. Belfast Lodge held meetings every second Sunday, with short meditations, study days, and talks by members with discussion on Theosophical topics. The books studied were *At the Feet of the*

Master, excerpts from *Theosophy as the Masters See It*, the *Nine Visitations of the Masters to Colonel Olcott*, an article on *Initiation* by N. Sri Ram and *On the Watch Tower Notes* by the President. Phoenix Lodge held well-attended quarterly meetings with short meditation followed by talks and discussions, the topics were: *Some Words on Daily Life*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Masters*,

The Theosophical Society and The Work. The Organizing Secretary gave talks in both Lodges. Two Study groups, one established in Coleraine, Northern Ireland, and a new and thriving Study Group in Castlebar, Co. Mayo, are making good progress with the format of meditation followed by study of a theosophical text.

Ms Marie Harkness
Organizing Secretary

IVORY COAST

Founded 1997. No report.

Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh
Organizing Secretary

NORWAY

Founded 1913, membership 14. The members have kept up their studies and discussions through a web forum that includes 33 others who are also

deeply interested in spiritual pursuit.

Dr Saleh Noshie
Organizing Secretary

SCOTLAND

Founded 1910, membership 132. The Scottish Society hosted talks by David Newjaers, and Pablo and Michele Sender, both occasions being well attended and appreciated. Dundee Lodge meetings were well attended and had a themed program on 'The Mind'. Edinburg Lodge had a good wide ranging program of talks and events including dance, music, theatre, and theosophy. Speakers from around Britain, Australia, India, and South America visited the Lodge. Glasgow Lodge had several visiting speakers. Ron Chapman gave a week of lectures on philosophy, theosophy, chakras, body

and mind energy system. Ms Lauren Robertson talked on new mediumship, and Lama Khemsar conducted a ten-day workshop on 'Buddhism and Bon Po religious teachings'. Scott Billings gave a series of talks on Gnostic philosophy. Zahir Khan conducted talks and discussions on non-dualism and Sufi teachings on Fridays. Kirkcaldy Study Group held meetings regularly with attendance of up to 10 participants. They had speakers and visitors from other Lodges, like the tour speaker Alan Senior.

Mr Stuart Mackenzie Trotter
Organizing Secretary

SLOVENIA

Founded 1992, membership 54. The four Lodges had regular weekly meetings. Public lectures were held in Koper and Ljubljana. The motto of the year was 'to live in harmony'. The Lodges continued to study theosophical texts and books such as *Talks on the Path of Occultism*, *Light on the Path*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Solar System* (some chapters), *The Hidden Side of Things*, *Voice of the Silence*, *Mahabharata*, *Freedom from the Known*, *Principles of Theosophical Work*, *Self-culture in the Light of the Ancient Wisdom*, and articles of prominent theosophists from *The Theosophist* and former President of The Theosophical Society, Radha Burnier. Also some of J. Krishnamurti's DVD's were watched and discussed after. The Spring School was held under the theme 'Dignity in the Light of Theosophy', and also

Krishnamurti's talk 'In the Present Is the Whole of Time', Washington Talk 1985, was watched. Summer School was held in Kranjska Gora with the theme *Bhagavadgita* conducted by the guest speaker Mr Bhupendra Vora. Autumn School was held in Pohorje with the theme 'At the Feet of the Master — Love', in which also Krishnaji's DVD *On Love and Freedom* was watched with discussion. All Theosophical Days were celebrated. In addition all Lodges arranged the Anniversary of Radha Burnier in October. 30th Annual gathering was held in Celje. 'Krishnamurti's Saturdays' were organized in Celje for all members and those interested, DVD's were watched and discussion were held.

Mrs Breda Zagar
Organizing Secretary

TOGO

Founded 1997. No report.

Mr Kouma Dakey
Organizing Secretary

UKRAINE

Founded 2013, membership 95. The five Lodges and three Study Centres conducted regular meetings during the year. The third Study Centre called 'Proteus' was formed during the year in Dnipropetrovsk. The tenth All-Ukrainian Convention took place with the theme 'New mind for new time', with more than 50 participants. White Lotus Day was celebrated with ceremonies and decorative

design in all Branches and Study Centers. The public meeting, blessed by the memory of H.P.B., took place in Kyiv on 'Knowledge of Ukraine Society'. In Dnipropetrovsk the public meeting was organized at the HPB House. The Summer School took place in the Carpathian Mountains on the theme 'Ethics as the Soul of Divine Wisdom', with 26 participants. TOS (Theosophical Order of

Service) members and volunteers conducted actions directed to old people, children, animals, Nature, and also those who found themselves in difficulties due to military operations in the east of the country. Seventeen representatives of TS in Ukraine, together with other volunteers, participated in repair works in the House where HPB, the Founder of TS, was born, in Dnipropetrovsk. On the date of her birth, 12 August, there was a solemn meeting 'Day of the Messenger of Light'. The Science Group, co-ordinated by Prof. Yuliya Shabanova, held the Annual Scientific Conference on 'Olena Blavatsky and contemporaneity'. In Kyiv, the Branch held a monthly

seminar on 'Science and Theosophy' conducted by Prof. Larysa Popova. The Theosophical website <<http://www.theosophy.in.ua>> continued its work. Every Branch and Study Center has its own page on the website. TOS, Science Group and two local groups have their own webpages, and a web-portal, *Theosophical Community of Ukraine*, has original and translated video-materials. The electronic magazine *Svitoch* (The Light Bearer) published 5 times per year. Eight seminars, one round table, 43 public lectures, were given during the year in different cities of Ukraine.

Ms Svitlana Gavrylenko
Organizing Secretary

URUGUAY

Founded 1925, membership 54. Every Lodge met once a week and studied the *Secret Doctrine*, *A Course in Miracles*, *Practicing the Power of Now* (E. Tolle), *The Voice of the Silence*, 'The Golden Stairs' (lecture by K. Pumar). They also studied articles published in *Sophia*, the theosophical magazine of the Spanish Section, articles from internet about modern physics, science, and archeology. The study of mythologies based on Greek mythology continued specifically about 'Herakles'. The following movies were watched and discussed, 'Into the Woods', 'And you, What

do you Know?', 'Into the Burrow' and 'Life of PI'. The Library was open two days a week to the public. It received digitalized magazines from various South American and Spanish sources. Two lectures by Dr J. L. Foglia were given. TOS (Theosophical Order of Service) collected bottle-tops in exchange for food given to animal dispensaries and helped providing wheel-chairs for disabled people. They also gave free Chi-Kung classes, and language and psychology workshops.

Mr Ramon Garcia
Organizing Secretary

WALES

Founded 1922, membership 78. The Welsh Region has four Lodges and one Study Centre. Three Lodges were active

with meetings being held twice a month. The Region had several visiting speakers: Gary Kidgell talked about 'Spiritual Trans-

formation and the Symbolism of Myth', Wayne Gatfield about 'Theosophical Masters, the Buddha, and Buddhism', Atma Trasi about 'The Science of Yoga' and 'The Life and Teachings of Ramana Maharishi', and Scott Olsen from USA also gave talks. Two Lodges held a series

of study sessions mainly for members on the course 'Wisdom and the Way' by Eric McGough. Ten members completed the Diploma in Theosophy Course organized by the English Section.

Mrs Julie Cunningham
Organizing Secretary

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

ASIA, EAST AND SOUTH-EAST

Formed 1990, membership 555. The Agency for East and South-East Asia is present in four countries, namely Singapore, Malaysia, Japan and Myanmar with an active lodge in each (see reports below). The Singapore Lodge and the Olcott Lodge (Yangon), both initiated by Col. H. S. Olcott himself, rank amongst the oldest Lodges in the world.

As connectivity of the world is facilitated by the internet, this facility was used for propaganda and popularizing a knowledge of theosophy in the region. The following websites were up and running:

- www.theosophyasia.net — Information specific to the theosophical movement in this region including history and current affairs. It also serves as a platform for the countries that do not presently have a website of their own.

- www.singaporelodge.org — Website of the Singapore Lodge Theosophical Society.

NIPPON LODGE (TOKYO, JAPAN)

Founded 1971, membership 37. The Nippon Lodge holds monthly study meetings in Tokyo. Recent studies in the lodge meetings were based on texts such as the ancient Greek literature, classical Sanskrit literature, Kabbalah, and the Japanese translations of H. P. Blavatsky's *The Secret Doctrine*, *Isis Unveiled* and *The Voice of the Silence*. The Lodge published bimonthly *The Japanese Theosophist*.

- www.chinesetheosophy.org — Chinese website, primarily for China but applicable to all the Chinese population worldwide. This website is intended to revive interest in Theosophy and the Theosophical Society in China, facilitating the download of Chinese theosophical literature and online forum discussion. There is on-going translation of theosophical literature into the Chinese language. This would be potentially beneficial not only to the people of Greater China but all the Chinese-literate population in the world including the over 50 million overseas Chinese.

- www.theosophyjp.net — Website of the Nippon Lodge in Japan.

- www.theosophiaselangorlodge.weebly.com — Selangor Lodge website of Malaysia.

Mr Chong Sanne
Presidential Representative

The contents include Japanese translations of Theosophical literature such as C. W. Leadbeater's *A Textbook of Theosophy* and *Hidden Life in Freemasonry*, H. P. Blavatsky's *The Secret Doctrine* Vol. II — Anthropogenesis, H. P. Blavatsky's *The Voice of the Silence*, and the opinions of the members.

Mr Taichi Yamaguchi
Lodge President

SELANGOR LODGE (MALAYSIA)

Founded 1927, membership 83. Lodge meetings were held every Saturday with readings from selected texts on topics ranging from philosophy, science, religion, and spirituality. After the meeting of readings, the Lodge's resident spiritual guide conducted discourses of nondual wisdom traditions of Advaita Vedanta, Western Hermetic traditions, Christian Mysticism and Theravada Buddhist Forest Meditation. Bro John

Vostermans, President of the Indo-Pacific Federation of the TS and Bro Richard Sell, President of the Auckland Theosophical Society visited the Lodge with program on 'Road to Brotherhood'. Study courses were held on various subjects. Ragi Kadrigamar was hosted for talks and satsangs, including a 3-day Self-awareness Retreat.

Ms Ng Ay Na
Lodge President

OLCOTT LODGE (YANGON TS, MYANMAR)

Founded 1885, membership 45. Every weekend the Lodge held meetings and group studies. They conducted two kinds of meditation, conscious force meditation and life force meditation, every weekend as well as on full moon day. Occasionally, meditation trips

were made to ancient sacred places around Myanmar as well as stargazing. The Lodge studied theosophical literature including *The Secret Doctrine*, Vol. I.

Mr Htay Myint
Lodge President

SINGAPORE LODGE

Founded 1889, membership 390. Lodge meetings were held on Saturdays with talk or video show. Programme with principle means to attract new members continued with 38th and 39th Editions of *A Course in Theosophy & Meditation* resulting in an intake of 65 new members for the reporting year. The Lodge President conducted Study Classes on *Light on the Path* on Tuesday

evenings. In January the International President, Mr Tim Boyd, and his wife, Lily, visited the Lodge, and the President gave a talk to members on *A Convergence of Wisdoms*. Members donated US\$8,770 to the Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund. Traditional theosophical days were celebrated.

Mr Chong Sanne
Lodge President

BANGLADESH

Founded 2013, membership 239. Kusum Lodge continued study of *At the Feet of the Master* once a month, and

Chittagong Lodge organized bi-weekly meetings and Meditation programmes. Lodge Dhaka organized 4 meetings

during the year and 6 members attended the International Convention at Adyar 2014. Comilla Lodge continued periodical meetings. Bro. B.L. Bhattacharyya supplied Theosophical books and

Magazines, published in Bengali, to the Lodges through three members who called on him at Kolkata.

Mr B. L. Bhattacharyya
Presidential Representative

BOLIVIA

Founded 1965, membership 118. Significant theosophical dates were commemorated in Bolivia. A visiting lecturer, Dr Enrique Reig, gave workshops in the cities of La Paz and Cochabamba on 'The Shadow: Sowing the seed of infinity into the hearts of men', 'Geriatrics from a theosophical point of view', and a few public lectures. The National Meeting was held in La Paz with the theme 'Secrecy'. Many Lodges participated in the National Meeting programmes with talks and lectures. The Lodges and groups studied *The Voice of the Silence*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *Letters from*

the Masters, *Bhagavadgita*, *Daily Meditations*, *Beyond Death*, *Raja Yoga*, *The Tao of Leaders*, *The Ocean of Theosophy*, *Light on the Path*, *Human Regeneration*, and other topics. TOS (the Theosophical Order of Service) and the Order of the Round Table were also functioning. The Rules and legal identity of the Institution were modified for the Agency to become a Bolivian Section. The Charter was to come, which happens at the beginning of the next reporting year.

Ms Guillermina Rios de Sandoval
Presidential Representative

COLOMBIA

Founded 1937, membership 41 (in 2014). No Report.

Ms Nelly Medina de Galvis
Presidential Representative

COSTA RICA

Founded 1997, membership 62. The Lodges met regularly every week with a variety of profound theosophical subjects. They studied the following books: *The Voice of the Silence*, the *Dhammapada*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *Light on the Path*, *The Science of Yoga*, *At the feet of the Master*, *Thought Power*, and several articles of *Theosophical Magazines*. A Guided

study of *The Key to Theosophy* was conducted with participants from three Lodges. There were regular *Mahatma Letters* studies and *The Secret Doctrine* studies. 'An Introductory Course of Theosophy' consisted of public lectures and free lectures. A Self-Transformation seminar was given by two sympathizers of the Society, based on the booklet of Vicente Hao Chin, Jr. An English to

Spanish translation was done of *The Seven Wisdom Jewels* published in *Lucipher Magazine*, TS Point Loma, The Netherlands. The Summer School was

held at Orosi City, Cartago on the theme of 'Death is not the End of Life'.

Ms Maria de los Ángeles Orlich Soto
Presidential Representative

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Founded 1987, membership 42. Bro Terry Hunt was the guest speaker in Santo Domingo with the topic 'Don't Take Away My Karma', and he conducted a retreat-workshop in Jarabacoa on *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*. Atma Lodge studied *The Key to Theosophy*, the *Dhammapada*, and *The Ocean of Theosophy*. Nueva Aurora Lodge focused mainly on *The Mahatma Letters*. Each month a special

'open topic' meeting was held, in which members shared and commented views on documentaries of social, scientific, and spiritual interest. Both Lodges had periodic visits by Sister Magaly Polanco, the Presidential Representative, from Puerto Rico. Her visits were much appreciated in bringing new inspirations.

Mrs Magaly Polanco
Presidential Representative

HUNGARY

Founded 1907, membership 39. Public lectures were organized monthly (10 in a season) with 25-50 participants. The main subjects revolved around the practical application of theosophical teachings to daily problems. There were also monthly open meetings a few days after a lecture, to greet new interested persons and to answer their questions about the lecture. Voice-recordings with

slides were uploaded to the website, and quite a lot of people living in the country followed the records. Two members translated writings for free download. They published the newly translated fifth part of *The Secret Doctrine* (Vol. II part.2). The Lodges commemorated White Lotus Day.

Mr Thomas Martinovich
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

Founded 1948. Membership, NA. In Pakistan the Jamshed Memorial Montessori School and the Theosophical Order of Service are working. Members visited the Jamshed Memorial Hall, and they receive the *Theosophist* and

Adyar Newsletter regularly. The work of the Karachi Lodge is being revived. One visit was made to assess the situation at Hyderabad (Sindh, Pakistan).

Mr Bhagwan Bharvani

PERU

Founded 1924, membership 37. The Lodges offered a total of 17 public talks on subjects including Mental Faculties, Seven Universal Laws of the Human Life, Presences from Beyond, Psychic Self-protection, Jiddu Krishnamurti, Preparing for our spiritual journey, Cosmic vibrations and mental health, Chakras and their Functioning — panei, Kriya Yoga, Energy Centres in Man, Reincarnation: Proofs and Lessons, The Tao and Silence. In this period the Agency offered freely by internet a Course of Theosophy for the public. Lodge Verdad

offered for the first time, and with success, a 'Basic Course of Theosophy' using the book of E. Simmons. Lodge HPB offered the course 'Basis of Esoteric Philosophy'. The Lodges celebrated Christmas together, and all the theosophical dates. TS in Peru has had big challenges to cope with the property from not going to wrong hands. But, at the same time, a good year because they worked hard and now had ten new members. It is the Yin-Yang.

Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar Calderón
Presidential Representative

PUERTO RICO

Founded 1925, membership 36. Every Sunday morning talks were offered on theosophical subjects. During four months a basic course on Theosophy was conducted with subjects such as Karma, Dharma, Reincarnation, Spiritual Evolution, The Septenary Constitution of the Universe, and so on. Brother Gaspar Torres visited delivering three lectures and conducting a workshop on spiritual development. His talks were: Dreams: What They are in the Light of Theosophy, The Relation of Manas to Kama, and

What is my Purpose in Life? The three Lodges met weekly and studied *The Key to Theosophy*, *An Introduction to the Mahatma Letters — A Study Course*, *Man and his Bodies*, *The Elemental Essence*, *Life after Death*, *The Bhagavadgita*, *History of Compared Religions*. The building of the Agency had some maintenance made. Because of its age, it is one of the representative buildings of the old architecture of the city San Juan.

Mrs Malagy Polanco
Presidential Agent

RUSSIA

Founded 2013, membership 159. A new Lodge in Kemerovo was formed. The Lodges had their regular meetings to study *The Secret Doctrine (SD)* and research other teachings in the light of the *SD*. Some people studied astrology and the

research on that field was presented on the day they met. In Moscow there were 12 public lectures on theosophy. Many electronic means were used to announce the activities, including 6 websites, 14 social networks, and a webinar. A Skype

webinar on *The Secret Doctrine* was conducted by Mr Pavel Malakhov the whole year round on Sundays. Mr Alexey Besputin took part in the 3rd International Volunteering Decade in the Museum Centre of H. P. Blavatsky and Her Family in Dnepropetrovsk (Ukraine). 1st Whole-Russia Theosophical Congress in Moscow, dedicated to the 139th annual International Theosophical Society (Adyar), had the subject of 'Past, present and future of the TS'. The 4th All-Russia Theosophical Congress in Moscow with the theme: 'Theosophy in a Changing World', attracted about 100 participants. It included participants from 17 cities in Russia and theosophists from Belorussia, Belgium, England, and Argentine. In Kemerovo a Theosophical

School was organized on *The Secret Doctrine*. The 2nd Congress of Russian Theosophists took place in Nijniy Novgorod. The 5th annual summer seminar was held in Makaryevka. The 2nd First Summer Theosophical Camp was held in Smolensk on the subject 'Actualization of Theosophy'. All branches celebrated the White Lotus Day. The past year ended up with more stable and warm relationships among different theosophical groups in the country. This year was hard to live through but it turned out to be a good experience for many. Overall, the theosophical movement in Russia is getting stronger.

Mr Pavel Malakhov
Presidential Representative

SRI LANKA

Founded 1926, membership 182. There were monthly meetings and various other programmes with topics such as: 'Developing Awareness in Searching the Truth' by Ven. Olande Anand Thero, and 'Theosophy: the Islamic View Point'; open discussions on 'Who am I?', and 'Consciousness'; Meditation programmes and

panel discussions: 'Towards a Higher Consciousness', 'Scientific Aspects of Theosophy', 'In Search of the Truth', 'The Mystic Secret of Meditation', 'Theosophy and Perception', and 'Living and the Practice of True Religion'.

Mr M. B. Dassanayake
Presidential Representative

SWITZERLAND

Founded 1910, membership 30. One half of the members are in Geneva, and one in Ticino, the Italian part of Switzerland. The members in Ticino gladly work with the Italian Section. The

Lodges are small, but the work done is serious. They study the books of *Dr I K Taimni*, *Krishnamurti*, *HPB*, and *Besant*.

Ms Eliane Gaillard
Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

Founded 1953, membership 14. The work done in Caracas has been continuous, even after a period of silence. In addition to reading and studying the books of prominent Theosophists of the past century, they also included for study and subsequent comments the articles of 'modern' Theosophy, such as those published by *The Theosophist*. Lodges met for two hours four times a month, every Sunday, including holidays. Each begins and ends with the invocation

of Mrs Annie Besant. It was agreed to meditate for the first twenty minutes of each session on behalf of the Theosophical Order of Service. Mrs Nelly Nouel was traveling to various theosophical events, such as the Inter-American Theosophical Federation Congress in Wheaton, and the XI Theosophical Seminar of the Caribbean Basin, exchanging ideas and sharing knowledge.

Mrs Nelly Nouel
Presidential Agent

LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

LOTUS LODGE (CROATIA)

Membership 17. Lodge meetings took place on Fridays in Zagreb. The subjects studied were taken from *The Theosophist*.

Ms Nada Tepés
Lodge President

EL SOL LODGE (ECUADOR)

Membership (12). No report.

ARC EN CIEL LODGE (FRANCE)

Membership 15. Members of the Lodge met regularly each month, and continued to study C. Jinarajadasa's *First Principles of Theosophy*. During several meetings, discussions were held on the theme of 'Beauty in Nature and its relationship with Cosmogony'. On *Adyar Day* a lecture was given by the Lodge President on 'Adyar, A Sacred Place', with a video which showed the estate. Members from Lodge Ananda attended. The White Lotus Day was also celebrated together with Ananda Lodge.

The Centre for Studies and Theosophical Research in Marseille includes members of both branches of Marseille, ie. Ananda and Arc en Ciel Lodge. The Centre organized a seminar in Marceilles open to the public. Topics were 'The Stone' and 'The Theosophists and The New Education'. The Centre organized a trip in Strasbourg to visit the gothic cathedral built between 12th and 14th century.

Mr Jean Ioza
Lodge President

ANANDA LODGE (FRANCE)

Membership 15. The Lodge met regularly every month and continued to study Annie Besant's *A Study in Consciousness*. On *Adyar Day* a lecture was given by Mr Jean Ioza on 'Adyar, A Sacred Place', with a video of the estate. Members from Lodge Arc de Ciel attended. The White Lotus Day was also celebrated jointly by the two Lodges.

The Centre for Studies and Theosophical Research in Marseille includes

members of both branches of Marseille, ie. Ananda and Arc en Ciel Lodge. The Centre organized a seminar in Marceilles open to the public. Topics were 'The Stone' and 'The Theosophists and The New Education'. The Centre organized a trip in Strasbourg to visit the gothic cathedral built between 12th and 14th century.

Mrs Birgitte Ioza
Lodge President

COVENANT LODGE (ISRAEL)

Membership 71. Public meetings were held monthly in the centre in Ramat-Gan and in the north of the country. Members meetings were held every week with topics of various articles and subjects from theosophical magazines and books, such as 'Speaking truth and living truth', 'The Beauty and difficulty of Krishnamurti's teachings', and 'Seek out the Way'. In the roundtable monthly meeting, chosen sections from *The Secret Doctrine*, were read, discussed, and meditated upon. Three one-day excursions were arranged, in which participants hiked, meditated, and discussed various spiritual subjects in Nature. They had four week-end seminars, attracting from 42 to 70 participants, with topics 'Growing out of crisis and identifying opportunities for regeneration and

healing', 'Inner freedom and freedom of choice', 'The sacred journey in Theosophy and spiritual poetry, East and West', 'Consciousness, intelligence, and information — Points of contact between physics and metaphysics'. A ten-meeting meditation course for facilitators was completed. A one-weekend course near Tel-Aviv dealt with the emotional nature of man. Another weekend workshop was held in a monastery near Jerusalem on 'The Theosophical perspective of developing Intuition'. Six active study groups meet once a month. The magazine *OR* is published in the internet and almost every week an email is sent to 950 subscribers (free). There is also an emailing list, sent to around 2,100 receivers.

Mr Abraham Oron
Lodge President

H. P. BLAVATSKY LODGE (QATAR)

Membership 9. The Lodge met twice a month with study classes on 'Theosophy' and *The Ocean of Theosophy*. Group discussions were on basic Theosophical topics. Bro. Ganesh Shenoy

delivered a lecture on 'The Lords of Karma'. Special programmes were held on Foundation Day and White Lotus Day.

Mr Dom Escobido
Lodge President

ORLANDO LODGE (U.S.A.)

Membership 14. The Lodge held meetings twice a month. The first meetings of the month were called 'Meditation of Life', which is based on N. Sri Ram's text. After meditation there were readings and discussions on selected theosophical topics. On the second meetings of the month they studied *Talks with a Class* by Annie Besant. In October each year they hold a special Nature Sanctuary Day to promote awareness and appreciation for Nature,

with a vegetarian picnic lunch at their Campus. The School of Theosophy held classes on 'Basic Theosophy' and 'Meditation' each spring and fall. The website is well visited and they publish a quarterly e-newsletter, *Theosophy Today*, which reaches 1,340 readers. A Healing Circle meets once a month year around.

Mr Carl Metzger
Lodge President

**DIRECTORY
AND
MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL**

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY
as of September 2015

Date	Section	General Secretary, etc.	Address	Magazine	Email address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr Narendra M. Shah	... PO Box 14525. 00800, Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya	... <i>The Theosophical Light</i>	narendrashahi999@gmail.com
1909	Africa, South	... Mr Jack Hartmann	... 9 Ronean, 38 Princesses Ave., Windsor E. 2194	... <i>The South African Theosophist</i>	hartmann.jack.c@gmail.com
1956	Africa, West	... Mr John Osmond Boakye	... PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana	... <i>The West African Theosophist</i>	tswafrica@gmail.com
1929	America, Central *	... Mrs Beatriz Martínez Pozas	... Colonia Universitaria Norte, Calle Julio Mejía, Polígono E-7, Mejicanos. San Salvador, El Salvador C. A.	...	bemapo@hotmail.com
1920	Argentina	... Mr Jorge Garcia	... Santiago 257 — 2000, Rosario	... <i>Teosofia en Argentina</i>	stargentina@sociedad-teosofica.com.ar
1990	Asia, East and Southeast †	... Mr Chong Sanne	... 540 Sims Avenue, No. 03-04 Sims Avenue Centre, Singapore 387 603	... <i>Newsletter</i>	sanne@theosophyasia.net
1895	Australia	... Mrs Linda Oliveira	... Level 2, 162 Goulburn St., Surry Hills, NSW 2010	... <i>Theosophy in Australia</i>	tshq@austheos.org.au
1912	Austria *	... Mr Albert Schichl	... Oberbaumgarten 25, 4204 Haibach im Mühlkreis	... <i>Theosofie Adyar</i>	theosophie.austria@aon.at
2013	Bangladesh †	... Mr B. L. Bhattacharya	... B/4-3, Iswarchandra Nibas, 68/1, Bagmari Road, Kolkata 700 054	...	blbtos_2005@yahoo.com
1911	Belgium	... Mrs Sabine Van Osta	... Place des Gueux 8, B1000 Brussels, Belgium	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	sabine_van_osta@hotmail.com
1965	Bolivia †	... Mrs Guillermina Rios de Sandoval	... Pasaje Jauregui No. 2255, La Paz	...	guillerirossandoval@yahoo.com
1920	Brazil	... Mr Marcos L. B. de Resende	... SGAS Quadra 603, N. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasilia (DF)	... <i>Sophia</i>	marcos.resende@riedel.com.br
1924	Canada *	... Mrs Maryze DeCoste	... 3162 Rue de la Bastille Boisbriand QC, J7H 1K7	... <i>The Light Bearer</i>	modecoste@hotmail.com
1920	Chile *	... Mr Cesar Ortega Ortiz	... Casilla 11 Sucursal Paseo Estacion, Estacion Central, Santiago	... <i>Revista Teosófica Chilena</i>	sociedadteosoficachile2010@gmail.com
1937	Colombia †	... Mrs Nelly Medina de Galvis	... Carr 22, # 45B-38 (Cons. 404), Barrio Palermo, Bogotá	... <i>Selección Teosófica</i>	nmedinaga@yahoo.es
1997	Costa Rica †	... Ms Maria Orlich	... Apartado 8-6710-1000, San José	...	orlichsm@gmail.com
2007	Croatia ▲	... Mrs Nada Tepeš	... Kraljika ulica 24, 10000 Zagreb	... <i>Teozofija</i>	z.zemlja@gmail.com
1905	Cuba	... Ms Barbara A. Fariñas Piña	... Apartado de Correos 6365, La Habana 10600	...	teocuba.sociedad@gmail.com
1987	Dominican Rep. †	... Mrs Magaly Polanco	... Calle Santa Agueda 1652 Les Chalet Col San Juan Puerto Rico Apartado 23 00926	...	polancocomagaly@yahoo.com
1888	England	... Mrs Jenny Baker	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1U 8EA	...	president@theosoc.org.uk
1907	Finland	... Mrs Mirva Jaatinen	... Teosofinen Seura, Vironkatu 7 C 2, Fin 00170, Helsinki	... <i>Teosofi</i>	info@teosofinenseura.fi
1899	France	... Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	yilishteeri@teosofinenseura.fi
1902	Germany	... Mrs Manuela Kaulich	... Hauptstr. 39, 93138 Lappersdorf	... <i>Adyar</i>	trankimdieu@sfr.fr
1928	Greece	... Mr Antonios Papandreu	... 25 Voukourestiou St., 106 71-Athens	... <i>Ilios</i>	theosophie-adyar@gmx.de
1907	Hungary †	... Mr Thomas Martinovich	... Hunyadi Janos ut 17. II. 8, H-1011 Budapest	... <i>Teozofia</i>	info@theosophicalsociety.gr
1921	Iceland	... Mr Halldor Haraldsson	... PO Box 1257 Ingólfsstraeti 22, 121 Reykjavik	... <i>Gangleri</i>	tshutau7@hu.inter.net
1891	India	... Mr S. Sundaram	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010	... <i>The Indian Theosophist</i>	iceland.ts@gmail.com
1912	Indonesia Jalan Anggrek Nelimurni A-104, Jakarta 11410, Timur	... <i>Theosofi</i>	theosophyvns@gmail.com
					theosofi.indonesia@gmail.com

1919	Ireland *	Mrs Marie Harkness	97 Mountsandel Road, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, UK BT52 1TA	...	marieharkness@yahoo.co.uk
1954	Israel ▲	Mr Abraham Oron	PO Box 9114, Ramat-Gan, Israel 5219002	...	ornet@theosophia.co.il
1902	Italy	Mr Antonio Girardi	Viale Quintino Sella, 83/E, 36100 Vicenza	...	sti@teosofica.org
1997	Ivory Coast *	Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh	Yopougon, 23 Rue Princesse B. P. 3924, Abidjan 23	...	pm_kouahoh@hotmail.com
1919	Mexico	Mr Enrique Sanchez	Ignacio Mariscal 126, Col. Tabacalera Mexicana, Mexico, D.F. 06030	...	sede@sociedadteosofica.mx info@sociedadteosofica.mx info@theosofie.nl
1897	Netherlands, The	Mr Wim Leys	Tolsraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam	...	Theosophia
1896	New Zealand	Mr John Vorstermans	18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 1022	...	TheoSophia
1913	Norway *	Dr Saleh Noshie	N-6873-Marifjora	...	saleh.noshie@bedriftshelse1.no
1935	Orlando ▲	Mr Carl Metzger	1606 New York Ave. Orlando, Florida, 32803-1838,USA	...	Theosophical SocietyCF@gmail.com
1948	Pakistan †	...	Jamshed Memorial Hall, M. A. Jinnah Road, opp. Radio Pakistan, Karachi	...	bhagwanbharvani@hotmail.com
1924	Peru †	Mr Julio Pomar Calderón	Av Republica de Portugal 152, Breña, Lima 5	...	sede-central@sociedadteosoficaenperu.pe philtheos@gmail.com
1933	Philippines, The	Mr Rosel Doval-Santos	Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City, Manila	...	The Philippine Theosophist
1921	Portugal	Mr Carlos Guerra	Sociedade Teosófica de Portugal, Rua José Estevão, 10 B, 1150-202 Lisboa	...	carlos.a.g.guerra@gmail.com
1925	Puerto Rico †	Mrs Magaly Polanco	Apartado 36-1766 Correo General, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-1766.	...	Heraldo Teosófico
2012	Qatar ▲	Mr Dom Escobido	Teyseer security services Doha, Qatar	...	qatarblavatskylodge@yahoo.com
2013	Russia †	Mr Pavel Malakhov	Molodyozhny pr., 10-221, 650070, Kemerovo, Russia	...	pr@ts-russia.org
1910	Scotland *	Mr Stuart Trotter	28 Great King Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6QH	...	albion.trotter@gmail.com
1992	Slovenia *	Mrs Breda Zagar	Kunaverjeva 1 SLO-1000 Ljubljana	...	zagarbreda@gmail.com
1921	Spain	Mrs Angels Torra Buron	Av. Vall d'or, 85-87 08197 - Valldoreix(Spain)	...	presidencia@sociedadteosofica.es
1926	Sri Lanka †	Mr M. B. Dassanayake	2-C/60, Maththegoda Housing Scheme, Maththegoda	...	mbdassa@gmail.com
1895	Sweden	Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	Kalle Postväg 48, S-702 29 Örebro, Sweden	...	ing-britt@wiklund-orebro.se
1910	Switzerland †	Mrs Eliane Gaillard	17 Chemin de la Côte, CH -1282 Dardagny, Genève	...	egaillard@bluewin.ch
1997	Togo *	Mr Kouma Dakey	S.O., A.R.T.T., BP 76, Adeta	...	org@theosophy.in.ua
2013	Ukraine *	Mrs Svitlana Gavrylenko	Office 3, 7-A Zhylianska St., Kiev 01033	...	admin@theosophical.org
1886	USA	Mr Tim Boyd	PO Box 270, Wheaton, IL 60187-0270	...	The Quest
1925	Uruguay *	Mr Ramon Garcia	Javier Barrios Amorín 1085, Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo	...	st.uruguay@gmail.com
1922	Wales *	Mrs Julie Cunningham	Bryn Adda, Brynsiencyn, Llanfairpwll, Anglesey, LL61 6NX UK	...	theosophywales@yahoo.co.uk

Date refers to the date of formation

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

▲ Lodge attached to Adyar

The Council of the European Federation of National Societies: *Chairman*: Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, F-45000 Orleans, France. Email: trankimdieu@msn.comInter-American Theosophical Federation: *President*: Mrs Isis M. B. Resende, SGAS 603 conj. E s/n. Brasilia-DF, CEP 70200-630 – Brazil. Email: imbresende@gmail.comIndo-Pacific Theosophical Federation: *President*: Mr John Vorstermans, 60B Riro Street, Point Chevalier, Auckland 1022, New Zealand. Email: john@theosophy.org.nzPan-African Theosophical Federation: *Chairman*: Mr Jack Hartmann, 9 Ronean, 38 Princess Avenue, Windsor E 2194, South Africa. Email: hartmann.jack.c@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Miss Joy Mills, 22 Krotona Hill, Ojai, CA 93023, USA
(for 2014, 2015 and 2016) — Passed away in December 2015

Mr Surendra Narayan, C/O. Anupam Narayan, L-20, IIInd Floor, South Extension, Part II, New Delhi 110 049, India (for 2014, 2015 and 2016)

Mr Bhupendra Vora, 108 Highfield Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire ND3 7PH, U.K. (for 2014, 2015 and 2016)

Mr Dusan Zagar, Kunaverjeva, 1, SLO-1000, Slovenia (for 2014, 2015 and 2016)

Mr Keith Fisher, 5 Homesdale Place, Darlington, Western Australia 6070 (for 2014, 2015 and 2016)

Ms Keshwar Dastur, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai-600 020, India (for 2013, 2014, 2015)

Mr D. K. Govindaraj, 3067/1 Brigade Citadel, Apt 202 Vivekananda Road, Yadavagiri, Mysore – 570 020, Karnataka State, India (for 2015, 2016 and 2017)

Mr P. K. Jayaswal, No.1, SBI Officer's Colony, Sheikhura Raja Bazaar, P.O.B.V. College, Patna – 800 014, India (for 2015, 2016 and 2017)

Mr R. C. Tampi, "Ragam", Ernhippala, Calicut – 673 006, Kerala, India (for 2015, 2016 and 2017)

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

of the Theosophical Society General Council Meeting held on
Wednesday, 30 December 2015, and adjourned
on Wednesday, 6 January 2016, at Adyar

P R E S E N T

Mr Tim Boyd	<i>President and proxy for Cuba, France, and Mexico</i>
Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Mr Surendra Narayan</i>
Ms Marja Artamaa	<i>Secretary and proxy for Bolivia</i>
Mr K. Narasimha Rao	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mr Narendra Shah	<i>General Secretary, Africa East</i>
Mr Jack Hartman	<i>General Secretary, Africa South and proxy for Africa West</i>
Mrs Linda Oliveira	<i>General Secretary, Australia</i>
Mrs Sabine van Osta	<i>General Secretary, Belgium</i>
Mr Marcos L. B. Resende	<i>General Secretary, Brazil</i>
Mrs Jenny Baker	<i>General Secretary, England</i>
Mrs Mirva Jaatinen	<i>General Secretary, Finland</i>
Mrs Manuela Kaulich	<i>General Secretary, Germany</i>
Mr S Sundaram	<i>General Secretary, India and proxy for Mr Jayaswal</i>
Mr Antonio Girardi	<i>General Secretary, Italy and proxy for Mr Dusan Zagar</i>
Mr Wim Leys	<i>General Secretary, Netherlands</i>
Mr John Vorstermans	<i>General Secretary, New Zealand</i>
Ms Angeles Torra Buron	<i>General Secretary, Spain with proxy for Portugal</i>
Mr Tim Boyd	<i>General Secretary, U.S.A</i>
Ms Keshwar Dastur	<i>Additional Member</i>
Prof. R. C. Tampi	<i>Additional Member</i>

Present as Observers :

Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Chairman of the European Federation of the TS
Mrs Isis Resende, Chairman of the Inter-American Theosophical Federation
Mr Robert Beland, Canada
Mr Domen Kocevar, Slovenia

The President welcomed those present.

The President reported the peaceful passing away of Ms Joy Mills at Krotona the morning of the meeting, and asked for a few minutes of silence to send her further light.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 December 2014 at Adyar, having been circulated, were taken as read, accepted, and signed.

2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

The GS of South-Africa asked about the definition of committee in the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 15. It defines a committee as a managing body, and it is to be elected for 3 years. In the TS the Executive Committee is a managing body and it is elected each year. The General Council is a governing body (not a managing body).

3. Voting for Additional General Council members

The President had nominated Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu and Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., for election under Rule 2 of the Rules and Regulations as Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2016, 2017, and 2018. Their bio-data were sent by email on 18 September 2015. The result of the voting was as follows:

	<i>For:</i>	<i>Against:</i>	<i>Abstained:</i>
Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu	21	3	2
Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr	27	0	0

Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu and Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr, were declared elected as Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2016, 2017, and 2018.

4. Report on the Non-English Publications Fund

The Secretary reported that on 30 September 2015 the NEPF balance held by the TS in America was USD 35,312/- and the NEPF balance held by the TS in Europe was USD 58,374/-, the total being USD 93,686/- (last year the total was USD 105,919/-).

One grant was given from the Fund in Europe: *The Secret Doctrine*, III, in Finnish with a grant of USD 1,580/-.

It was clarified that the NEPF can be used also for Indian language publications. India has 22 official languages.

5. Report on the International Funds

The Secretary reported that on 30 September 2015 the Funds in Australia were USD 483,566/-, and in America USD 1,427,089/-, the total of the International Funds being USD 1,910,655/- (last year the total was USD 1,962,449/-).

The source of the International Funds are in the country concerned. It was noted that the money in the Funds have never been created in India or moved from Indian sources.

6. Report by the President on Headquarters

Accomplishments

The President presented a list of accomplishments, sent to GC members on 22 December 2015, and highlighted some of them.

The new website was published in September 2015. It has had a good reception.

The Archives, which was not functioning for several years, now has 4 volunteer workers. Toxicity tests of archival materials taken from different places in the Archives were made by a professional company. The result of the tests showed that the papers and materials are not toxic.

Salaries were raised above the minimum wage for the state of Tamil Nadu.

The roof of the Adyar Theater was not fully ready for the Convention. One of the reasons for the delay was the 3-week interruption in the work caused by the flooding. The new roof will be finished after the Convention.

Internet service does not yet cover the whole Campus. We are investigating a wireless point-to-point system instead of underground cable, which is expensive and time consuming work. Our level of internet usage is not yet sufficient to justify such high costs.

Thanks to a donation from the TS in New Zealand, 120 new mattresses of 6-inch foam were bought for LBC. Thus every mattress and pillow in Leadbeater Chambers was replaced the week before the Convention started.

The Campus has 116 buildings, which Mr Michiel Haas and Mrs Helma Haas have evaluated. Four buildings have been designated as the initial priority — Headquarters, Raja House, Blavatsky Bungalow, and Leadbeater Chambers. The total cost estimate is about 1 million USD.

Court case

The Krishnamurti Foundation 'The School' had 35 years of leases, the last of which expired in September 2014. The School was informed ***4 years in advance*** that the latest lease would not be extended, but it has made no progress in moving.

7. Appointment of Executive Committee for 2015

The President reported that Mr Surendra Narayan, aged 97, resigned from the Executive Committee in the spring of 2015, and the Committee co-opted Mr S. Sundaram.

The following Executive Committee members were unanimously appointed for 2016:

Mr Tim Boyd	President (ex-officio)
Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy	Vice-President (ex-officio)
Ms Marja Artamaa	Secretary (ex-officio)
Mr K. Narasimha Rao	Treasurer (ex-officio)
Mr Sundaram	General Council Member
Prof. R. C. Tampi	General Council Member
Mr S. Harihara Raghavan	Member
Dr M. V. Rengarajan	Member
Mr C. A. Shinde	Member
Mr A. L. Somayaji	Member

7.5. Election of the Treasurer

The President nominated Mr Narasimha Rao, who has been Acting Treasurer for the past year, to be elected as the Treasurer. It was agreed to add this point to the agenda.

Mr Narasimha Rao was unanimously elected as Treasurer for the next 3 years from January 2016, 2017, and 2018.

8. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015

During the year there was a 45-lakhs deficit. The budget of 2014-15 was revised for the following reasons: increase of salaries, maintenance due to problems in buildings, TPH, *The Theosophist* and the *Adyar Newsletter*. Convention expenses were increased as consequences of the floods.

The money advanced to the Indian Section was reflected in the accounts.

The revised Budget for 2015-16 was confirmed by the General Council, with 2 abstentions.

Treasurer's Report:

5 million rupees was loaned to the Indian Section, as there was an urgent need for completing the work at the Himalayan Centre of the Indian Section in Bhowali. This amount will be returned by the Indian Section. The Section is 125 years old. The property in Varanasi was acquired by Annie Besant. A grant of 3 million Rupees was given to the Indian Section for their Headquarters in Varanasi, where the compound is seen by thousands of daily passers-by, and it needs to give a presentable appearance as the Indian headquarters of the TS. In the future, the GC will be informed about loans or cases of this nature.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015 had been previously circulated by email and were approved.

9. The Budget for the year ending 31 March 2017

The Budget for the year ending 31 March 2017, was considered, discussed, and approved with 2 abstentions.

10. Appointment of Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2016

M/s Srihari & Co. were unanimously re-appointed as Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2016 on the same terms as before.

11. Discussion on work around the world

The General Secretaries present reported about their main activities. The presentations continued at the beginning of the planning meeting held after the Convention. In general, many countries are trying to bring new life to their programmes.

Attention was paid to the transfers of membership between countries. The rules say that a transfer requires the President's approval and also approval from both General Secretaries.

The meeting was adjourned to 6 January 2016 at 8am.

12. Report of the TS Rules Committee

It was noted that Rule 49 of the international Rules states:

"49. Changes in Rules and Regulations.

The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of the Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient."

Any changes to the Rules therefore need to be initiated by a collective motion, either of the General Council or the international Executive Committee, prior to a vote.

The Rules Committee had reviewed rules 1-9 and 11-36 to date. The Committee's proposed amendments to a number of these Rules were considered, discussed, and either accepted or amended at the meeting.

A motion was passed that "the General Council approves the presentation of a

motion to the next General Council meeting to amend the Rules as presented by the Rules Committee and as agreed to at this meeting."

In relation to Rule 10, regarding the election of an International President, it was agreed to conduct a survey of all General Council members concerning the number of terms of office which an International President might hold (either three consecutive terms or two consecutive terms), to assist in the formulation of a change to this Rule. A clear majority for either of these two options, which were under consideration, did not emerge during the meeting.

It was agreed that further proposed changes to the remaining Rules can be sent by the Rules Committee during 2016 for the consideration of the International Executive Committee. If satisfied, the Executive Committee can move a motion in accordance with Rule 49 to recommend changes to Rule 10 (depending on the survey results), as well as changes to any remaining Rules which are recommended by the Rules Committee and which have not already been reviewed by the General Council. This will help expedite the procedure for updating all of those International Rules which require amendment.

No later than three months prior to the next meeting, the motion of the General Council and a motion of the International Executive Committee (if passed) will be circulated to the Council. In addition, all suggested changes to the Rules, accompanied by explanations, will be sent to the General Council for a vote within the same time period, with a view to their adoption at the December 2016 meeting of the Council.

The President thanked the Chair and the team for their work.

13. Renovation Project

The President briefed those present about the Adyar Renovation Project, which will be presented with more information in an evening program during the Convention.

14. Approval of the GC for disposal of unusable land outside the Adyar campus.

Outside the walls of the Campus there are three areas in Adyar which are owned by the TS. The lands are of no use to the TS, as they have no access roads and have become dumping grounds for the neighborhood.

The value of the properties will be examined and, if sold, the funds would be used for TS and Theosophical work. (The need for additional sources of income had already been raised in the budget discussions.) The decision to dispose of TS property

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needs to have three quarters of the GC members' approval. A proposal will be sent to the GC after further investigation.

This matter was brought to the GC to provide necessary information before making a decision.

15. Any Other Business.

a. World Congress

According to international Rule 47, a World Congress of the TS may be held not more than once in every 7 years but so as not to interfere with the annual Convention. This would mean not before 2017.

It is worth noting that the next European Congress will be held in 2017 in Barcelona, Spain. The Nairobi Lodge in Kenya will celebrate its centenary in 2017. They will possibly propose to host the next Congress after discussing it in their annual meeting in a few months. Singapore is another place which has been thought of for hosting the World Congress.

No decision has yet been made about who will be the next host.

b. Points raised by the General Secretaries

1) Heritage status

The GS of Spain read a Proposal from some young members from Spain and the Netherlands to acknowledge the Adyar estate as having heritage status. The Vice-President examined the heritage matter in 2009, and all the papers are with him.

The matter was discussed from various aspects. We need a few people to examine all aspects of this matter to find out what are the impacts and what it requires from us.

The President requested the GS of Spain to thank the Spanish authors of this proposal.

2) Charity status

The GS of England reported that the English Section is on the process of applying for charity status. She said that the reason for doing so is not to avoid paying taxes, but that the Government encourages organizations to have that status.

16. Closing the meeting

The President thanked all present.

The GC meeting was held on 30 December from 8:00am to 5:30pm.

The adjourned meeting was held on 6 January 2016, from 8:00am to 3:35pm.

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